United Nations S/2016/630

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 July 2016
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 19 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to inform you of a bloody and brutal attack carried out by the French air force against defenceless Syrian civilians in the north of the Syrian Arab Republic on Tuesday 19 July 2016:

The French air force, illegally operating in the airspace of the Syrian Arab Republic as part of the so-called international coalition led by the United States of America, has carried out a bloody massacre near the Syrian-Turkish border that is a source of shame for all humanity. The peaceful village of Tukhan al-Kubra, on the northern outskirts of the city of Manbij, was heavily bombarded from the air, inhumanely killing entire families and razing homes.

The brutal French aggression killed more than 120 civilians, most of them women, children and elderly persons. It also wounded dozens of civilians, the majority of whom were women and children. On-the-ground reports indicate that the fate of dozens of other civilians, trapped under the rubble of their homes, is still unknown.

Only one day before, on Monday 18 July 2016, American warplanes perpetrated a similarly bloody massacre by heavily bombarding the Syrian city of Manbij, killing more than 20 civilians and inflicting wounds of varying levels of severity on dozens of others. Those victims were also mostly innocent women and children.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic denounces in the strongest possible terms the two bloody massacres carried out by French and American warplanes as part of the so-called international coalition led by the United States of America, which continues to drop its missiles and bombs on innocent civilians and Syrian infrastructure instead of on the terrorist gangs. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic reminds the Governments of France and the United States that hypocrisy and double standards are not viable policy in the war against terrorism. Syria also emphasizes that anyone who is seriously intent on combating terrorism may do so only in coordination with the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and its army, which is fighting terrorism all over Syria. Continuing to describe terrorist groups as the "moderate opposition" is disgraceful and unacceptable.

Terrorism has affected France because of its Government's ineptitude and lack of commitment to counter-terrorism. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic reaffirms that France's response to terrorism must not in any way involve the killing of innocent Syrian civilians. France's moral and legal responsibility as a permanent member of the Security Council in no way allows it to violate the Charter of the United Nations and kill innocent civilians abroad. France should review its policies and fight terrorism on its own soil first. Syrian citizens have suffered enough from the actions of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), which is supported either directly or indirectly by countries that are now well-known to the international community. Resolutions adopted by the Security Council, particularly resolution 2253 (2015), prohibit the financing and arming of terrorist groups and the provision of logistical and intelligence support to such groups. France has adopted such policy, and must bring it to an immediate end.

France, the United States of America, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Britain have persisted in providing various forms of support to terrorist organizations such as the Nusrah Front, the Army of Conquest, the Army of Islam, Liwa' al-Tawhid, the Nur al-Din al-Zanki battalion, the Badr Martyrs Brigade, the Emigrants Brigade and the Islamic Front, which they call moderate terrorist groups, as well as other groups belonging to or within the orbit of ISIL and Al-Qaida. This is stark evidence that those States, as well as others, are colluding with terrorist groups and are not serious about fighting terrorism. The fact of the matter is that terrorism will inevitably come back to haunt those who use it to harm others and change political regimes through terror and force. Terrorism has no religion, country or nationality.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic emphasizes that those massacres, crimes, havoc and destruction will not deter it from its duty of combating terrorism and bringing about a political solution to the crisis among Syrians, through Syrian-Syrian dialogue under Syrian leadership and without foreign interference. Those actions will bring an end to terrorism. The Syrian Government stresses that after approximately six years of war in Syria, anyone who refuses to support its efforts to eliminate terrorism stands with the terrorists against the aspirations of the Syrian people, as well as the peoples of the region and the entire world.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic calls for the condemnation of the massacre carried out by France, and calls on the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility to safeguard international peace and security by adopting punitive measures against the States and regimes that support and finance terrorism, particularly the regimes in Riyadh, Doha, Ankara and Paris. The Council should prevent them from continuing to support terrorism and endangering international peace and security, and compel them to implement fully Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014), 2199 (2015) and 2253 (2015).

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2016/631

Security Council

Distr.: General
20 July 2016

Original: English

Implementation of Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014) and 2258 (2015)

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The present report is the twenty-ninth submitted pursuant to paragraph 17 of Security Council resolution 2139 (2014), paragraph 10 of Council resolution 2165 (2014), paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 2191 (2014) and paragraph 5 of Council resolution 2258 (2015), in which the Council requests the Secretary-General to report, every 30 days, on the implementation of the resolutions by all parties to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic.

2. The information contained herein is based on the data available to United Nations agencies on the ground, from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, other Syrian sources and open sources. Data from United Nations agencies on their humanitarian deliveries have been reported for the period from 1 to 30 June 2016. More recent data have been included when available.

II. Major developments

A. Developments on the ground

3. During the reporting period, military activities continued to threaten the viability of the cessation of hostilities. Military activities, including air strikes, continued, mainly in the northern part of the country, as well as in Rif Dimashq and other governorates. In line with resolution 2258 (2015), the following description of developments on the ground reports on the compliance by all parties in the Syrian Arab Republic with resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014) and 2191 (2014). This information is without prejudice to the work of the International Syria Support Group Task Force on the Ceasefire.

4. Fighting continued throughout the reporting period in Damascus and Rif Dimashq governorates, particularly in eastern Ghutah, where clashes between Government forces and non-State armed opposition groups continued along several fronts. Air strikes and shelling resulting in civilian casualties and injuries were reported in several towns, including Duma, Mayda'a, Marj, Hammurah, and Utaya. According to information received by reliable sources, on 29 June, ground strikes

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hit an ambulance which was en route from Duma to Hammurah. A female physiotherapist was reportedly killed. On 30 June, air strikes struck residential buildings in Utaya, reportedly killing at least 18 civilians.

5. In western Ghutah, Government forces conducted an offensive on the besieged town of Darayya. After the delivery of humanitarian aid on 1 June, Darayya town witnessed a military escalation and was reportedly hit with air strikes and ground attempts to advance inside the town. On 6 June, air strikes hit residential areas of Darayya, allegedly killing one civilian and injuring five others. A second humanitarian convoy with food aid went into Darayya on 10 June and the town came under ground strikes and air strikes while the convoys were still on the ground. On 19 June, non-State armed opposition groups reopened a corridor with the neighbouring town of Mu'addamiyah al-Sham, before Government forces restored control over the area several hours later. Meanwhile, in Mu'addamiyah al-Sham, three civilians were reportedly killed and at least two others injured when residential areas of the town were hit by ground strikes on 21 June.

6. Government forces reportedly intensified air strikes and artillery shelling on Khan al-Shih area of Rif Dimashq almost on a daily basis during the reporting period, resulting in multiple deaths and injuries to civilians, as well as damage and destruction to civilian homes. For example, according to information received by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), on 29 June, air strikes hit two civilians' houses in Khan al-Shih, allegedly killing six civilians, including a five-year-old child and a woman, and injuring at least 10 other civilians.

7. In Yarmuk camp, fighting resumed between Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and the Nusrah Front in June, placing civilians at further risk. The Nusrah Front made slight advances after launching counter-attacks to recapture the areas it lost in April. As noted in my most recent report (S/2016/546), on 11 June, in the Damascus suburb of Sayyidah Zainab, two explosions resulted in the death of at least 12 people and wounded many others. ISIL claimed responsibility for the attacks through its Aamaq Twitter posts. The attack was the fourth such incident perpetrated by ISIL against the Sayyidah Zainab shrine area in 2016.

8. Military activity intensified in Aleppo governorate in June. Government and pro-Government forces launched attacks on non-State armed opposition group-controlled eastern neighbourhoods of Aleppo city. OHCHR received reports of scores of civilians, many of them children, being killed in June. For example, on 8 June, an air strike reportedly hit Bayan Hospital, allegedly killing at least 15 civilians. On 14 June, 26 civilians were allegedly killed after air strikes hit several neighbourhoods in eastern Aleppo city, according to information received by OHCHR. On 18 and 20 June, air strikes reportedly hit two health-care centres in Fardous and Tariq al-Bab, causing substantial damage to the facilities, although no casualties were reported.

9. Non-State armed opposition groups continued their attacks on Government-held areas of Aleppo city. The neighbourhoods of Maydan, Salah al-Din and Sulaymaniyah, as well as other areas of Government-controlled Aleppo, were repeatedly hit with mortars and other explosives, killing and injuring many civilians. In a note verbale dated 6 June addressed to OHCHR, the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic reported that "terrorist" groups fired hundreds of mortars and other explosives on 3 and 4 June on several neighbourhoods,

allegedly killing more than 110 civilians, including 40 children. On 25 June, according to information received by OHCHR, four civilians were reportedly killed and others injured when the Khalidiyah and Nil street neighbourhoods were hit by mortars reportedly fired from eastern Aleppo city.

10. Fighting continued along the Castillo road, the last remaining access road in and out of eastern Aleppo city, on a near daily basis, with air strikes and artillery fire reported throughout June and early July. Civilians were reportedly killed and injured while attempting to use the road. For example, an air strike reportedly hit a bus carrying civilians, reportedly killing 10 people, including three children. On 5 June, three civilians were allegedly killed on the road by artillery shells. As of 17 July, the Castillo road has been rendered impassable, cutting off humanitarian, commercial and civilian movement to the eastern part of Aleppo city. According to estimates, between 200,000 and 300,000 people reside in eastern Aleppo city, many of whom are reliant on the humanitarian assistance that was transported along that road to meet their basic needs. Price increases for food and basic goods have already been reported in eastern Aleppo city.

11. The towns of Huraytan, Kafr Hamra, Anadan and Hayyan, in rural areas north of the Castillo road and Aleppo city, were subject to intense aerial bombardment during June. On 5 June, five civilians were allegedly killed when an air strike hit a residential building in Kafr Halab town. OHCHR received reports that, 10 minutes after the first strike, another air strike on the same location injured first responders attending the scene. On 13 June, air strikes on Anadan and in Kafr Hamra reportedly hit a residential neighbourhood, allegedly killing at least three civilians and injuring a dozen more. On 14 June, 11 civilians were allegedly killed and 21 more wounded in air strikes that hit a number of residential facilities in Kafr Halab and Shaykh Ali.

12. Fighting continued in northern Aleppo governorate during the reporting period, leading to civilian casualties, injury and displacement. During June, non-State armed opposition groups made gains against ISIL, taking control of several villages, and breaking ISIL encirclement of the towns of Azaz and Mar'e. Meanwhile, the Syrian Democratic Forces, backed by the United States-led coalition, continued their offensive against ISIL, gaining control of several villages, and entirely encircled the town of Manbij in the eastern countryside of Aleppo, which was held by ISIL. Owing to the fighting, ISIL allowed hundreds of families to leave through a humanitarian corridor from the city of Manbij, established by the Syrian Democratic Forces. An estimated 50,000 civilians remain trapped in the town as of 17 July. According to information received by OHCHR, on 3 June, a series of air strikes hit the village of Uj Qana southeast of Manbij town. One of the strikes hit a residential area and reportedly killed at least 22 civilians, including 12 children. In its briefing on 4 June, the United States Central Command noted that on 3 June, coalition military forces had carried out eight air strikes near Manbij.

13. In Idlib governorate, mutual shelling between the parties and intensified pro-Government air strikes continued throughout the reporting period. On 12 June, air strikes on a market in Idlib city allegedly killed at least 37 civilians, including 11 children. On 12 June, an air strike on the town of Ma'arrat al-Nu'man hit a residential home, reportedly killing a woman and her five children. On 14 June, helicopters dropped at least five bombs on Jabal al-Zawiyah town, hitting a house and allegedly killing six civilians. Some 45,000 people have reportedly fled the aerial bombardment in Idlib city over the past few weeks. Meanwhile, non-State

armed opposition groups continued shelling the besieged towns of Fu'ah and Kafraya in Idlib governorate throughout June, reportedly resulting in civilian casualties and injury.

14. Fighting continued between ISIL and Government forces around Dayr al-Zawr governorate. ISIL continued to hit besieged neighbourhoods of Dayr al-Zawr city with sporadic mortar fire, such as the strike on 2 June, which fell close to Sami Jassim school in the Jurah neighbourhood. OHCHR received reports that a child was seriously injured and the buildings damaged. On 12 June, four civilians, including a woman and a child, were reportedly killed by mortar rounds hit close to their home.

15. OHCHR reported a noticeable increase in civilian casualties resulting from air strikes across eastern and rural parts of Dayr al-Zawr governorate in June. On 2 June, three women and three children were allegedly killed when air strikes hit their houses located close to a mosque in Diban town. The following day, aircraft carried out strikes on a residential area of Albu Layl village, reportedly killing at least 10 civilians. On 6 June, the first day of Ramadan, air strikes hit residential areas in Asharah town in eastern rural Dayr al-Zawr, allegedly killing 26 civilians. On 25 June, air strikes hit residential areas in ISIL-controlled Qurriyah town. OHCHR received reports of 41 civilians allegedly killed, including 22 children. OHCHR was unable to verify those responsible for the attacks.

16. In Raqqah governorate, fighting, including air strikes, was reported during the reporting period. On 1 June, air strikes struck a residential area in the Mashlab neighbourhood located on the outskirts of Raqqah city. OHCHR received reports that 11 civilians, including two women, were allegedly killed. On 19 June, air strikes hit residential areas of Tabaqah town located in western rural Raqqah. The strikes reportedly killed 10 civilians, including one woman, and injured at least 22 others. On 21 June, air strikes struck residential areas in the centre of Raqqah city, allegedly killing 21 civilians. OHCHR was unable to verify the parties responsible for those attacks. Meanwhile, ISIL reportedly occupied two schools in Raqqah city, forcibly evicting a number of internally displaced persons from Tadmur, Homs governorate, who had used the schools as a shelter.

17. Elsewhere in Raqqah, on 14 June, a car bomb was detonated near the Democratic Union Party's (PYD) People's House in the centre of Kurdish forces-held Tall Abyad, in the northern rural part of the governorate. At least seven civilians were reportedly killed and 25 others injured. ISIL claimed responsibility for the attack through its Aamaq Twitter posts. According to local sources, on 29 June, ISIL detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device in the town of Tall Abyad in the northern countryside of Raqqah, killing more than 10 persons and injuring several others.

18. The United States Department of Defense confirmed that in June, the United States-led coalition carried out 335 strikes against ISIL targets in the governorates of Aleppo, Raqqah, Hasakah, and Dayr al-Zawr, with over 70 per cent of the incidents taking place in Manbij in Aleppo governorate. The Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation provided no information on its operations in June. While OHCHR has received reports of air strikes, allegedly conducted by international actors, which resulted in civilian deaths and injuries, the Office was unable to verify the parties responsible.

B. Human rights

19. OHCHR continued to receive reports of serious violations in Government-run detention facilities, as well as of abuses by non-State armed opposition groups, including the arbitrary deprivation of liberty, torture and killings. Approximately 35 prisoners who had recently been transferred from Saydnaya prison to Adra prison in late 2015 and early 2016 reportedly disappeared from Adra between 7 and 14 June. Their whereabouts remain unknown. OHCHR is gravely concerned that those individuals are at risk of enforced disappearance.

20. The situation remained tense in Hama central prison, where authorities appeared to be staggering their implementation of the release of detainees, which was agreed in a verbal deal reached with the political detainees, following the riots that took place in May in the facility. Prison authorities released some detainees in the early part of the month, but no releases took place between 5 and 21 June. As of 30 June, more than 170 detainees had been released by the authorities, with only 24 released in June, out of the 500 detainees in total who are to be released in accordance with the verbal deal.

21. On the morning of 5 June, Government forces and their allies allegedly raided the homes of three women in the Jurah neighbourhood of Dayr al-Zawr city and arrested them for communicating with ISIL. The three were neighbours, whose husbands were outside the besieged area and unable to return. They reportedly chatted online with their husbands and were subsequently arrested. Their whereabouts remain unknown.

22. Government forces and their allies raided the Thib Antar school in the Jurah neighbourhood of Dayr al-Zawr city on 8 June and reportedly arrested at least 150 students who were sitting exams. Most of the students were around 17 years old and it is believed they were detained for the purpose of military recruitment.

23. On 14 June, Kurdish forces reportedly demolished approximately 200 houses belonging to Arab tribe members and families of Mu'amra in the villages of Jalal, Tall Barak, and in Alwah Sharqiya in Hasakah governorate. The homeowners had fled the area five or six months earlier to escape harassment.

24. OHCHR received reports that on 14 June, ISIL publicly whipped two men with 300 lashes at Dalla roundabout in Raqqah city. Accused of smuggling civilians to Turkey, the men were released after the flogging, although their vehicles were confiscated.

25. On 13 June, ISIL allegedly stoned to death the imam of Khalid bin al-Walid Mosque in Buqrus village in eastern rural Dayr al-Zawr. He was accused of committing adultery. The imam had been held in ISIL custody since being abducted six weeks previously.

26. On 16 June, ISIL reportedly stoned to death a woman in public, after accusing her of adultery. The stoning took place close to Fayhaa roundabout in Albu Kamal town in eastern rural Dayr al-Zawr. On the same day, six male civilians in Mayadin town were allegedly punished with 70 lashes for not fasting during Ramadan.

27. ISIL released a video on 28 June allegedly showing the killing of five men from Albu Kamal town in rural Dayr al-Zawr, whom they claimed had been New Syrian Army fighters who had launched an offensive against ISIL the day before,

although OHCHR received reports that the men had been detained several months previously on grounds of spying against ISIL.

28. According to credible sources, on 2 June, an unidentified suicide bomber on a motorcycle detonated close to Al-Khulfah Al-Rashdin mosque in the Da'tur district of Ladhiqiyah town, as people were leaving after prayers, killing at least three civilians and injuring several others. No group claimed responsibility.

C. Humanitarian response

29. In June, United Nations humanitarian agencies and partners continued to reach millions of people in need, through all modalities, from within the Syrian Arab Republic and across borders pursuant to resolutions 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014) and 2258 (2015). Non-governmental organizations also continued to deliver assistance to people in need, in line with previous months. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic continued to provide basic services to areas under its control as well as in many areas beyond its control.

Table 1
Number of people reached by United Nations system organizations in June 2016

Organization	*Number of people reached*
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	21 000
International Organization for Migration	103 800
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	275 000
United Nations Children's Fund	1 800 000
United Nations Development Programme	71 257
United Nations Population Fund	96 000
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	383 792
World Food Programme	4 100 000
World Health Organization	1 300 000

30. Cross-border deliveries continued during the reporting period. In June, 14 consignments consisting of 558 trucks crossed from Turkey and Jordan to the Syrian Arab Republic under the terms of resolutions 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014) and 2258 (2015) (more information on United Nations cross-border convoys in June is found in annex I to the present report). Shipments through the Ramtha crossing from Jordan were suspended by the Jordanian Government at the end of June owing to the security situation along the Syrian-Jordanian border.

31. In line with Security Council resolutions, the United Nations notified the Syrian authorities in advance of each shipment, including of its content, destination and number of beneficiaries. The United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic continued its operations, monitoring 558 trucks in the 14 consignments in May, confirming the humanitarian nature of each, and notifying the Syrian authorities after each shipment. The Mechanism continued to benefit from excellent cooperation with the Governments of Jordan and Turkey.

32. In June, inter-agency convoys to the besieged and hard-to-reach locations listed in table 2 below were completed by the United Nations and partners. The World Food Programme (WFP) successfully completed 18 airdrop rotations, delivering almost 304 tons of food, which are being used to complement rations for the second distribution cycle for 18,000 households (see also annex II for more information on access to besieged and hard-to-reach locations). United Nations agencies also undertook single agency deliveries to cross-line and hard-to-reach locations or reached those locations through their regular programmes during the reporting period.

Table 2
Inter-agency convoys in June 2016

Date	*Location*	*Number of beneficiaries*	*Type of assistance*
1 and 9 June	Darayya	2 400 (food); 4 000 (other supplies)	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, nutrition, education, non-food items, health
1 and 3 June	Mu'addamiyah al-Sham	45 000	Food and health
10 June	Duma	24 000 (food); 40 000 (other supplies)	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, non-food items, health.
13 June	Dar al-Kabirah, Ghantu, Tayr Ma'lah	33 500	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, nutrition, education, non-food items, health.
16 June	Afrin	50 000	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, nutrition, non-food items, health
16 June	Wa'r	37 500	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, nutrition, education, non-food items, health
19 June	Kafr Batna subdistrict	25 000	Food, nutrition, health.
21 June	Bludan	25 000	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, non-food items, health
23 June	Jayrud	37 500	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, nutrition, education, non-food items, health
23 and 28 June	Shaykh Maqsud	27 000	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, nutrition, non-food items, health
27 June	Qudsaya	30 000	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, nutrition, education, non-food items, health
29 June	Irbin and Zamalka	21 500	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, nutrition, education, non-food items, health
29 June	Western Harasta	12 500	Food, water, sanitation and hygiene materials, nutrition, education, health

Humanitarian access

33. The delivery of humanitarian assistance to people in need of assistance in the Syrian Arab Republic remained extremely challenging in many areas of the country as a result of deliberate restrictions by the parties on the movement of people and goods, active conflict and shifting conflict lines.

34. On 23 June, the Emergency Relief Coordinator announced that the number of people living in besieged and hard-to-reach areas stood at 5.47 million, an increase of some 900,000 people from the previous estimate of 4.6 million. The increase is

based primarily on the inclusion of areas in parts of Aleppo, Raqqah and Hasakah governorates, as a result of insecurity, as well as constrained access for humanitarian actors both from within the Syrian Arab Republic as well as via cross-border operations. Access to the millions of people living in besieged and hard-to-reach locations remained of critical concern. Overall, the United Nations agencies and partners reached 64 of the 154 besieged and hard-to-reach areas (41 per cent)[1] through either inter-agency convoys or single agency deliveries. Details of assistance to those areas, by sector, in June are contained in table 3. Meanwhile, non-governmental organizations continued to provide limited medical, education and protection services, as well as some support in other sectors, in hard-to-reach locations, under extremely challenging circumstances.

Table 3
United Nations deliveries to hard-to-reach, besieged and priority cross-line locations, June 2016

Sector (United Nations delivery only)	*Number of people reached (percentage of 4.6 million)[a]*
Food security	590 000 (12.8)
Health (treatments)	715 000 (15.5)
Non-food items	210 000 (4.6)
Water, sanitation and hygiene materials	150 000 (3.3)

[a] Reporting against the new total of 5.47 million people in besieged and hard-to-reach areas will commence in July 2016.

35. Active conflict in several governorates hindered the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance, as well as people's access to essential services. Markets, schools, medical and other civilian infrastructures were damaged as a result of fighting in June, reducing the availability of basic and essential services in critical areas. For example, the electricity supply in Aleppo city remains limited to 10 hours a week and the water supply to 1 day out of 10. The lack of electricity and fuel are disrupting the functioning of the two main water pumping stations in eastern Aleppo, which are halted as a result, depriving over 2 million people of drinking water in Aleppo city. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) continues to provide fuel to power both water-pumping stations, providing over 3 million litres of safe drinking water for over 2 million people.

36. Fighting also disrupted humanitarian supply lines to communities at risk. For example, the security situation along the Castillo road in Aleppo city resulted in the suspension of humanitarian deliveries to the eastern part of Aleppo city, from mid-June onwards. The prevailing security situation also hindered the vaccination campaign for thousands of children in Aleppo city. Meanwhile, on 5 June, non-State armed opposition groups attacked the Homs-Salamiyah road at Snidah junction and closed the road temporarily, negatively affecting United Nations missions to Hama and Aleppo. Elsewhere, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine

[1] Since the revision to the number of people in besieged and hard-to-reach areas was completed during the reporting period, data for the month of June are based on the previous number of people in besieged and hard-to-reach areas.

Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was unable to conduct any mission in June to Yalda, owing to ongoing negotiations with local actors.

37. Deliberate interference and restrictions by the parties also continued to prevent aid delivery. For example, WFP continues to be unable to access populations in need in ISIL-controlled areas of the country, as all plans to deliver assistance to those areas have been suspended owing to the inability to work independently and monitor activities. This is preventing WFP from reaching hundreds of thousands of people in Raqqah and most of Dayr al-Zawr governorates (except the neighbourhoods in the city receiving assistance via airdrops), as well as certain areas in rural Aleppo, rural Hasakah, western rural Dar'a, some villages in Riq Dimashq and north-western rural Hama. Meanwhile, in June, over 10,000 children from besieged and hard-to-reach areas were supported by UNICEF and partners in order to be able to travel to sit for the national examinations. However, some of the children and their families who sought to cross the conflict lines were stopped and questioned by armed groups at checkpoints. They were prevented from leaving and thus were unable to sit the national exams.

38. The United Nations inter-agency convoy plan for June contained requests to reach 1.1 million people in 34 besieged, hard-to-reach and priority cross-line locations. Access to 16 locations was approved in full, to reach 365,250 people; 14 were partially approved, with restrictions on the type of assistance and/or a reduction in the number of approved beneficiaries to 396,200 people (a difference of 176,800 between the number requested and the total approved); and access to four locations, for reaching a total of 208,500 people, was not approved. Two hard-to-reach locations, Bludan and West Harasta, were added to the June humanitarian convoys upon the request of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic. Overall, the inter-agency convoys reached 374,900 beneficiaries in June, in 19 locations. Increased insecurity and delays in administrative procedures at the national and local levels, as well as a lack of agreement between the parties of the Four Towns ceasefire agreement covering Zabadani, Madaya, Fu'ah and Kafraya and surrounding areas, prevented the United Nations agencies and other partners from fully implementing the plan for June. Medical items continued to be removed from convoys (see para. 59).

39. On 19 June, the United Nations submitted its inter-agency convoy plan for July, which included requests to reach 1.2 million beneficiaries across 35 besieged, hard-to-reach and priority cross-line locations. By 4 July, in response to the plan, the Syrian authorities granted approval in full to 17 locations for 556,250 people; an additional 17 locations were approved, with a reduction in the number of approved beneficiaries to 354,000 (a difference of 282,500 between the number requested and the total approved); and one location, Qabun in Rif Dimashq, aiming to reach a total of 28,000 people, was not approved, with no official reason provided. Of the 18 besieged areas included in the request, the United Nations has approvals to reach all 18, either to assist the entire population in need or part thereof. On 10 July, the United Nations submitted a written request to the Syrian authorities reiterating its request for full approval to deliver overland assistance to areas that had been partially approved or not approved under the plan. The Syrian authorities have also approved 38 additional locations, not included in the request by the United Nations, for convoy deliveries; many of those locations are already reached by regular programmes.

40. The Nusaybin/Qamishli crossing in Hasakah governorate has been temporarily closed by the Turkish authorities owing to security concerns since 27 December 2015. Hasakah governorate also remains largely inaccessible by road for United Nations agencies from within the Syrian Arab Republic. WFP stocks of monthly general food rations in the governorate have now been completely exhausted, preventing partners from assisting a projected 275,000 beneficiaries via land access. On 9 July, WFP commenced airlifts from Damascus to Qamishli airport. The first WFP-chartered flight carried 35 tons of food, including rice, bulgur, pulses, salt, vegetable oil, sugar and other items. WFP is targeting 75,000 people for food assistance over the first four weeks of the airlift operation; most of those families have not received any food assistance from the United Nations for the past six months.

41. As of 30 June, the United Nations had submitted 41 new visa applications for United Nations staff; 13 of which have been approved and one of which was rejected, while 27 remain pending. Of those pending, 10 have exceeded the limit of 15 working days.

42. A total of 17 international non-governmental organizations are registered with the Government to operate in the Syrian Arab Republic. Four more international non-governmental organizations are in the process of completing registration. Such organizations continued to face a series of administrative hurdles and restrictions that have an impact on their ability to operate, including in gaining permission to undertake independent needs assessments.

Besieged areas

43. The number of people living in areas designated by the United Nations as besieged currently stands at 590,200. Humanitarian conditions in besieged areas continue to be dire. In besieged areas, the flow of commercial supplies through official routes remained largely blocked, leading to high prices for commodities reaching besieged areas through unofficial and irregular supply lines. Freedom of movement remained heavily restricted, though limited numbers are sporadically allowed to exit and re-enter some besieged areas.

44. Recent inter-agency convoys to besieged areas have highlighted numerous critical protection concerns beyond physical protection from ongoing fighting and lack of freedom of movement. A number of families have been separated, including children from their parents. Indications of severe trauma were observed, with children being particularly affected. People in all locations expressed serious concerns about the unavailability of civil registration and documentation services. Boys and girls are particularly exposed to protection risks. Access to education has been severely affected and significant numbers of children appear to have been recruited into armed groups, with many boys aged under 18 having been observed, both in uniform and in plain clothes, brandishing weapons. While early marriage was a pre-existing practice, the age of marriage has considerably decreased, affecting girls in particular.

45. In June, the United Nations assisted approximately 237,800 people in besieged areas (40.3 per cent of the total besieged population) through inter-agency operations. With the delivery to Irbin and Zamalka in June, all 18 besieged locations designated by the United Nations have been reached at least once in 2016, with partial or full assistance for some or all of their inhabitants.

46. In eastern Ghutah, Rif Dimashq, some 282,500 people remain besieged by government forces in the following locations: Duma, Eastern Harasta, Irbin, Zamalka, Ayn Tarma, Hammurah, Jisrayn, Kafr Batna and Saqba. On 10 June, the United Nations and partners completed the first phase of a multiphase delivery to bring food for 24,000 people, as well as nutritional items, health, hygiene and other humanitarian supplies for some 40,000 people in Duma. Some medical items were not permitted on the convoy. On 29 June, an inter-agency convoy reached Irbin and Zamalka with multisectoral assistance for some 20,000 people, the first United Nations inter-agency convoy to the area since November 2012.

47. In Darayya in Rif Dimashq, about 4,000 people remain besieged by government forces. On 1 June, an inter-agency convoy to Darayya delivered initial assistance of medical supplies, vaccines and nutritional items for children. On 9 June, the United Nations and partners delivered food for 2,400 people, as well as nutritional, health and medical items, water, sanitation and hygiene materials and education assistance for 4,000 people to Darayya. The town came under ground strikes and air strikes following both convoys. Some medical assistance was not permitted on the convoys.

48. In Madaya (and Buqayn) in Rif Dimashq governorate, some 43,000 people remain besieged by government forces. An inter-agency convoy with multisectoral assistance for 40,000 people is pending the parties' consent to facilitate safe passage of the convoys, as part of the Four Towns agreement. Reports of rapidly deteriorating humanitarian conditions have been received from Madaya, including of cases that require urgent medical care and evacuation.

49. In Zabadani, Rif Dimashq governorate, some 700 people remain besieged by government forces. Although not approved under the plan for June, a multisectoral convoy to Zabadani is pending the parties making final arrangements to facilitate safe passage, as part of the Four Towns agreement.

50. In Fu'ah and Kafraya in Idlib governorate, some 20,000 people remain besieged by non-State armed opposition groups and the Nusrah Front. An inter-agency convoy with multisectoral assistance for 20,000 people is pending the parties' consent to facilitate safe passage of the convoys, as part of the Four Towns agreement. Reports of rapidly deteriorating humanitarian conditions have been received from Fu'ah and Kafraya during the reporting period, including cases that require urgent medical care and evacuation.

51. In Mu'addamiyah al-Sham in Rif Dimashq, about 45,000 people remain besieged by government forces. On 1 and 3 June, inter-agency convoys were deployed to Mu'addamiyah al-Sham to deliver food and health supplies for 45,000 people. The third phase of the convoys was approved on 7 June, but has yet to take place.

52. In Yarmuk, in Damascus governorate, some 10,000 people are besieged by government forces and non-State armed opposition groups. UNRWA humanitarian missions into Yalda, from which Yarmuk residents could come and receive assistance, were suspended during June owing to ongoing negotiations with local actors. Meanwhile, Syrian authorities gave permission for 45 grade 12 students from Yarmuk camp to travel to Damascus to sit their national examinations.

53. In the government-controlled western neighbourhoods of Dayr al-Zawr city, some 110,000 people are besieged by ISIL. From 10 April to 13 July, WFP completed 70 high altitude airdrop rotations, delivering 1,233 tons of mixed food

commodities. Quantities airdropped so far are sufficient to provide 110,000 people besieged in the government-held part of Dayr al-Zawr city (18,000 households registered by the Syrian Arab Red Crescent) with a 41 kg food ration. Ongoing airdrop deliveries are being used to provide all 18,000 households with a second full ration. In addition, UNICEF delivered, through the same airdrops, high-energy biscuits for around 3,600 children and pregnant and lactating women for a month, and enough water purification tablets to purify water for around 20,000 persons for a month (based on an estimation of two l of drinking water per person per day).

54. In Wa'r neighbourhood in Homs governorate, about 75,000 people are besieged by government forces. On 16 June, a United Nations/Syrian Arab Red Crescent convoy delivered multisectoral assistance, reaching half of the 75,000 residents in the area, who were last reached in March. For the first time ever in cross-line convoys from Homs, the United Nations hub was able to deliver complete health kits (without any surgical items being removed).

Attacks on medical facilities and free passage of medical supplies, personnel and equipment

55. Primary, secondary and tertiary health-care services continue to experience severe gaps in performance and service delivery, owing to the extensive damage caused to health-care facilities, the rapid turnover of health staff and the lack of qualified professionals in the different medical specialties. Paediatric and maternal health-care services, including routine vaccinations, remain negatively affected, particularly in the governorates of Aleppo, Hama, Homs and Dar'a as well as in the besieged areas of Rif Dimashq.

56. In blatant disregard for the special protected status of health-care facilities under international humanitarian law, and for Security Council resolution 2286 (2016), adopted on 3 May, medical facilities continued to be damaged or destroyed as a result of fighting in the Syrian Arab Republic. The United Nations and health partners received credible reports, which are in the process of being verified by the United Nations and partner organizations, of scores of attacks on health-care facilities during the month of June, including hospitals in Aleppo and Idlib governorates, as well as the deaths of several medical workers. Further attacks on health-care facilities in early July have been reported.

57. The World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF continued to implement the nationwide vaccination campaign. The first round of the cross-border component of the nationwide campaign had reached about 772,000 children by the end of June, equivalent to a coverage rate of 53.6 per cent. Significant access challenges have been experienced in several areas: the cross-border campaign was temporarily suspended in Dayr al-Zawr, Raqqah and parts of Aleppo governorate owing to the security situation, as well as access challenges. Efforts are ongoing to reach those areas. Moreover, the volatile security conditions caused a low turnout of families to have their children vaccinated, in some locations where access was otherwise possible.

58. Since the beginning of 2016, WHO has filed 25 requests with the Syrian government to access 89 locations in 10 governorates (two of the requests were submitted in June). The Syrian government has approved eight of the 25 requests. The approval received in June was to access four locations in Dar'a. Meanwhile, 17 requests remain unanswered, for which WHO has sent four reminders.

59. The removal of life-saving medicines and medical supplies continued. Serum drugs, renewable items (razors, scalpel blades, gauzes) and surgical equipment (forceps, scissors, needles) are consistently removed from midwifery kits, inter-agency emergency health kits, paediatric kits and diarrhoeal disease sets. The treatments and supplies removed from convoys during June are outlined in table 4.

Table 4
Medical items removed from convoys

Location	*Number of items*	*Type of item*
Darayya	12 606	Analgesics and neuropathic pain relievers. Treatments for 80 trauma cases were removed
Mu'addamiyah al-Sham	5 942	Reduced quantities of basic inter-agency health kits. Treatments for 20 trauma cases and medical equipment such as basic X-ray units, steam sterilizers, ventilators for adults and ventilators for infants were removed
Duma	1 963	Medicines for analgesic injections, dialysis sessions, psychotropic medicine and antibiotics injections. Reduced quantities of inter-agency health kits (basic). Treatments for 20 trauma cases and medical equipment (ventilator and sterilizers)
Hammurah	2	Medical equipment (spectrophotometer and steam sterilizer) was removed
Bludan	2 033	Burn kits, medicines removed from inter-agency health kits (supplementary) and from pneumonia A kits. Treatments for 30 trauma cases
Jirud	1 025	Burn kits, pneumonia B kits, analgesic injections and surgical consumables. Treatments for 20 trauma cases

Safety and security of staff and premises

60. A total of 27 United Nations staff members, 25 of whom are UNRWA area staff, one from the United Nations Development Programme and one from UNICEF continue to be detained or missing. Since the start of the conflict, dozens of humanitarian workers have been killed, including 17 staff members of the United Nations, 53 staff members and volunteers of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and eight volunteers and staff members of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society. In addition, scores of staff members of international non-governmental organizations and national non-governmental organizations are reported to have been killed.

III. Observations

61. The toll that the brutal conflict has taken on the Syrian people has gone far beyond anything we could have imagined. Tragically, over the past month, an escalation of fighting and violence in several parts of the country has resulted in the senseless killing and maiming of hundreds of innocent men, women and children. Attacks on hospitals and schools, on mosques and public markets, on ethnic, religious and confessional groups remain an almost daily occurrence, inflicting brutal suffering on the innocent. I am deeply alarmed by the escalating violence in and around Aleppo city, putting hundreds of thousands of people at further risk of death and injury, particularly those in eastern Aleppo city, who are effectively trapped, as the fighting closes in and their access to basic commodities runs out.

62. The plight of those in Aleppo and elsewhere across the country underscores that civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic are as much at risk as they have ever been

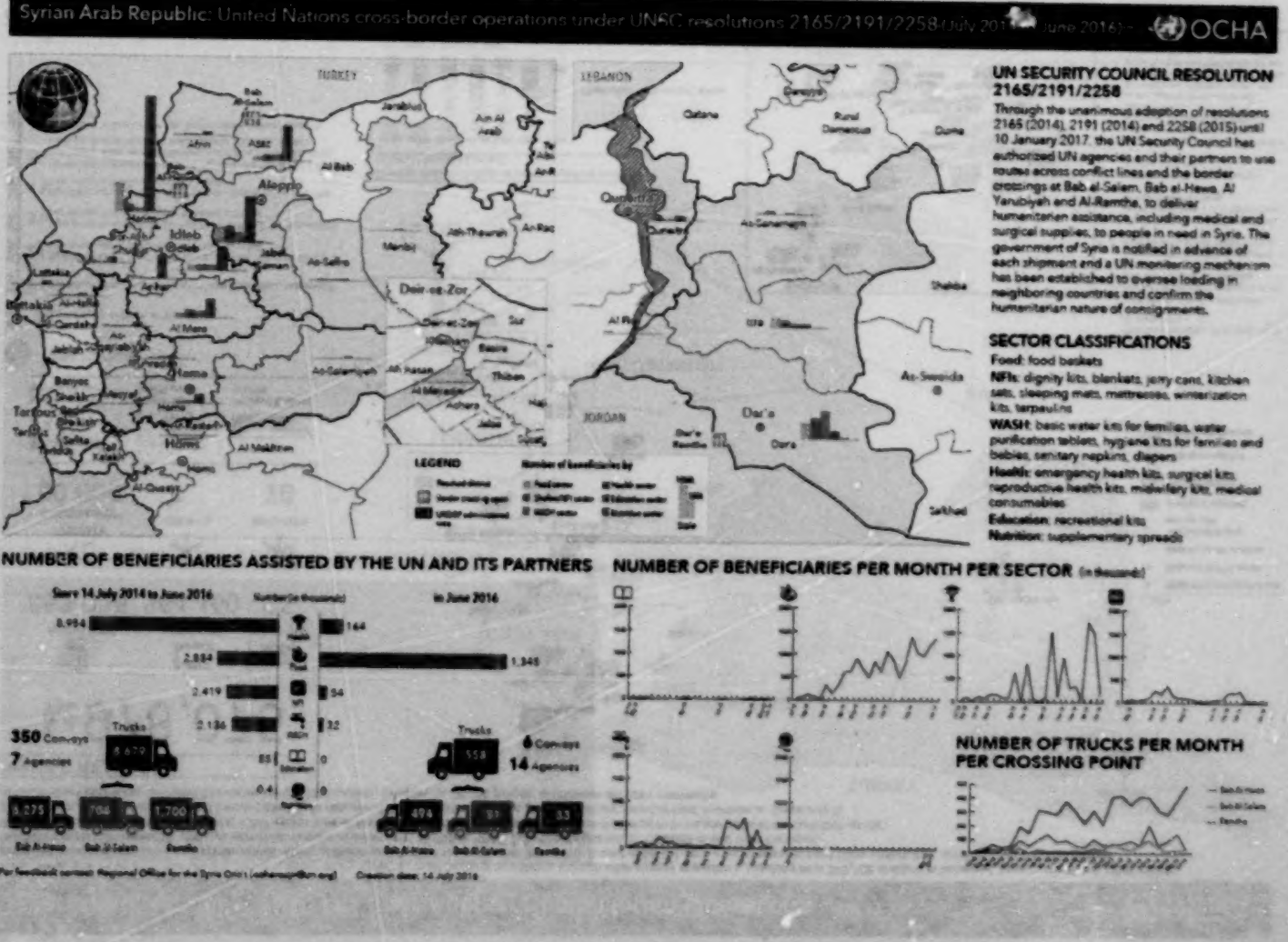
owing to the continued blatant disregard for humanitarian law by all parties to the conflict. Ongoing sieges are depriving civilians of the most basic items necessary for their survival, such as water and food, and strikes are launched on heavily populated areas from both air and ground, without regard for civilian presence. Parties to the conflict must immediately abide by international humanitarian law and individuals who fail to do so should be brought to account. Civilians must not and cannot ever be a target and all efforts should be made to protect civilian lives, including at the expense of gaining a military advantage.

63. While serious challenges remain, I recognize that some degree of progress has been made on humanitarian access to besieged and hard-to-reach areas over the first half of the year. So far, the United Nations and partners have reached each of the 18 besieged locations at least once in 2016, providing assistance to nearly two thirds of those living in besieged areas. Those small breakthroughs are proof that when there is enough political will, it is more than possible to reach people in desperate need of life-saving assistance.

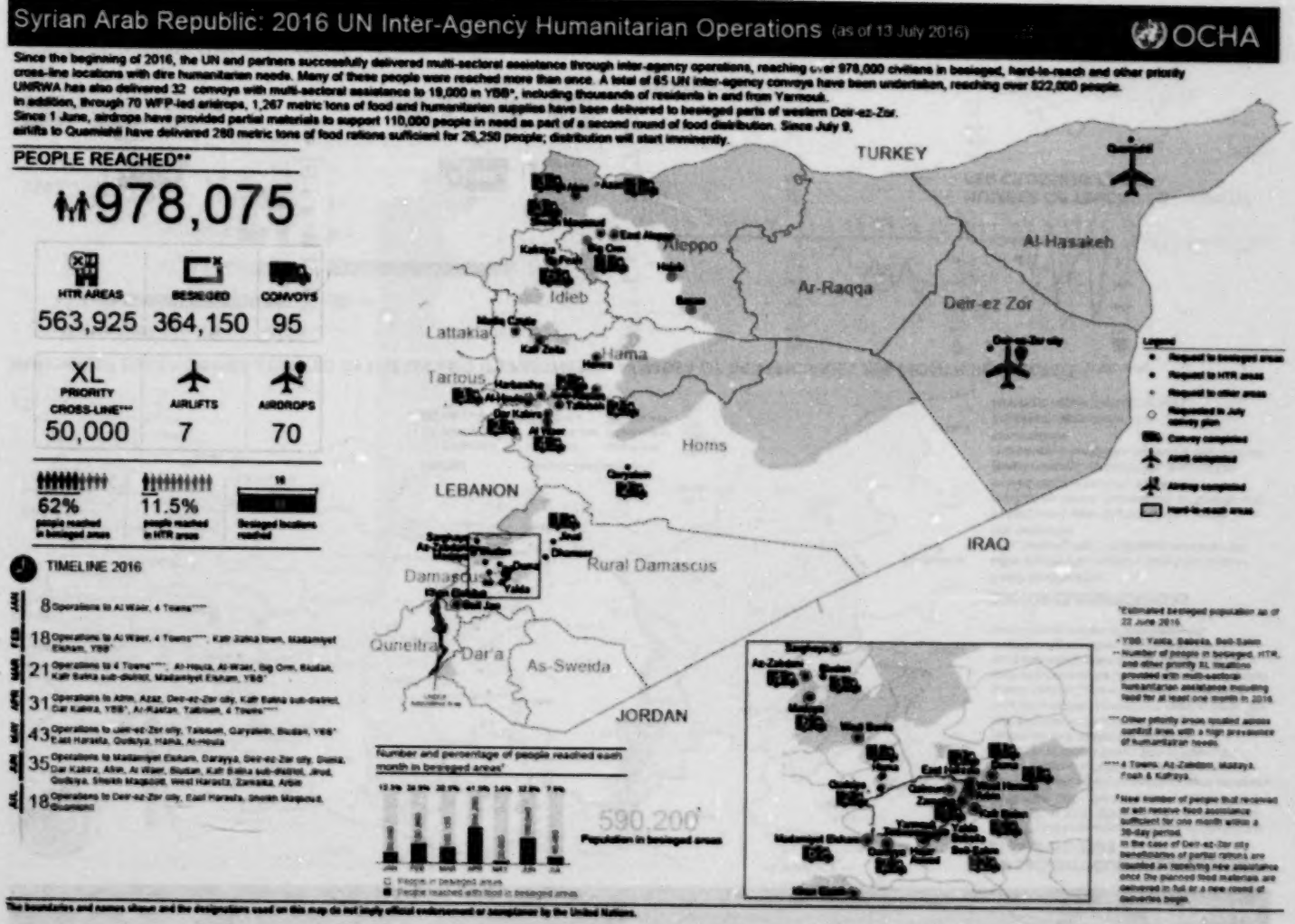
64. Nevertheless, much more access is required. Access cannot be a one-off, or even an occasional event, and it cannot be limited to a segment of the population or specific kinds of aid. The current levels of access still leave civilians starving and without proper medical care. Despite receiving approval from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to reach nearly all requested besieged and hard-to-reach areas requested by the United Nations as part of its plan for July, access to many of those areas continues to be constrained by increased fighting and insecurity, differences in the estimate of the number of beneficiaries and other administrative delays. Such delays are leading to unnecessary loss of life and compounding the suffering of civilians during the hot summer months. I call on the parties and those that support them to lift these barbaric sieges once and for all and ensure unconditional, unimpeded and sustained access to the millions of people in all besieged and hard-to-reach areas. Granting access should never be conditional nor dependent on political negotiations or used as a bargaining chip in talks. The humanitarian imperative must prevail.

65. As has been the case since the formal launch of the International Syria Support Group process, the three-track approach of cessation of hostilities, humanitarian access and the political process remains inexorably intertwined. In preparation for a new round of formal talks, my Special Envoy has continued to conduct technical discussions with the opposition and continues to develop proposals and options to bridge the gaps on issues that remain subject to agreement between the opposition groups and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic. He also continues to engage civil society on issues such as reconstruction, human rights, detainees and constitutional reform, and with the Women's Advisory Board and other women's groups on elements of political transition and on ways to ensure meaningful gender participation in both the current negotiations and the transition itself. The ongoing engagement of civil society groups in the process is testament to the will of Syrians to seek an end to the conflict and begin the political transition. In support of their efforts, I urge members of the International Syria Support Group, and in particular the co-chairs, to expend all efforts to agree on measures to end the violence and the suffering of the people of the Syrian Arab Republic and to advance a political transition.

Annex I


Syrian Arab Republic: United Nations cross-border operations under UNSC resolutions 2165/2191/2258 (July 2014 - June 2016) - OCHA
TURKEY
LEBANON
JORDAN
Aleppo
Idleb
Hama
Homs
Dar'a
As-Suweida
Quneitra
Rural Damascus
Damascus
Deir-ez-Zor
Ar-Raqqa
Al-Hasakeh
Tartous
Lattakia
LEGEND
UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2165/2191/2258
Through the unanimous adoption of resolutions 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014) and 2258 (2015) until 10 January 2017, the UN Security Council has authorized UN agencies and their partners to use routes across conflict lines and the border crossings at Bab al-Salem, Bab al-Hawa, Al Yarubiyah and Al-Ramtha, to deliver humanitarian assistance, including medical and surgical supplies, to people in need in Syria. The government of Syria is notified in advance of each shipment and a UN monitoring mechanism has been established to oversee loading in neighboring countries and confirm the humanitarian nature of consignments.
SECTOR CLASSIFICATIONS
Food: food baskets
NFIs: dignity kits, blankets, jerry cans, kitchen sets, sleeping mats, mattresses, winterization kits, tarpaulins
WASH: basic water kits for families, water purification tablets, hygiene kits for families and babies, sanitary napkins, diapers
Health: emergency health kits, surgical kits, reproductive health kits, midwifery kits, medical consumables
Education: recreational kits
Nutrition: supplementary spreads
NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES ASSISTED BY THE UN AND ITS PARTNERS
Since 14 July 2014 to June 2016
In June 2016
8,994
2,884
2,419
2,136
144
1,345
54
32
0
0
350 Convoys
7 Agencies
Trucks
8,679
5,275
704
1,700
6 Convoys
14 Agencies
558
494
33
Bab Al-Hawa
Bab Al-Salem
Ramtha
NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES PER MONTH PER SECTOR (in thousands)
NUMBER OF TRUCKS PER MONTH PER CROSSING POINT

Annex II


Syrian Arab Republic: 2016 UN Inter-Agency Humanitarian Operations (as of 13 July 2016)
OCHA
Since the beginning of 2016, the UN and partners successfully delivered multi-sectoral assistance through inter-agency operations, reaching over 978,000 civilians in besieged, hard-to-reach and other priority cross-line locations with dire humanitarian needs. Many of these people were reached more than once. A total of 65 UN inter-agency convoys have been undertaken, reaching over 822,000 people. UNRWA has also delivered 32 convoys with multi-sectoral assistance to 19,000 in YB6*, including thousands of residents in and from Yarmouk.
In addition, through 70 WFP-led airdrops, 1,267 metric tons of food and humanitarian supplies have been delivered to besieged parts of western Deir-ez-Zor.
Since 1 June, airdrops have provided partial materials to support 110,000 people in need as part of a second round of food distribution. Since July 9, airlifts to Quamishli have delivered 280 metric tons of food rations sufficient for 26,250 people; distribution will start imminently.
PEOPLE REACHED**
978,075
HTR AREAS
563,925
BESIEGED
364,150
CONVOYS
95
XL PRIORITY CROSS-LINE***
50,000
AIRLIFTS
7
AIRDROPS
70
62%
people reached in besieged areas
11.5%
people reached in HTR areas
16
besieged locations reached
TIMELINE 2016
JAN 8 Operations to Al Wa'er, 4 Towns****
FEB 18 Operations to Al Wa'er, 4 Towns****, Kafr Zahra town, Madamiyet Elsham, YB6*
MAR 21 Operations to 4 Towns****, Al-Houla, Al-Wa'er, Big Om, Rludan, Kafr Batna sub-district, Madamiyet Elsham, YB6*
APR 31 Operations to Afrin, Azaz, Deir-ez-Zor city, Kafr Batna sub-district, Dar Kabira, YB6*, Al-Rastan, Talbiseh, 4 Towns****
MAY 43 Operations to Deir-ez-Zor city, Talbiseh, Qaryatein, Rludan, YB6*, East Harasta, Duriliya, Hama, Al-Houla
JUN 35 Operations to Madamiyet Elsham, Daraiya, Deir-ez-Zor city, Douma, Dar Kabira, Afrin, Al Wa'er, Rludan, Kafr Batna sub-district, Jirud, Duriliya, Sheikh Maqsoud, West Harasta, Zamalka, Arbin
JUL 18 Operations to Deir-ez-Zor city, East Harasta, Sheikh Maqsoud, Duma
TURKEY
Aleppo
Idleb
Ar-Raqqa
Al-Hasakeh
Deir-ez Zor
Lattakia
Hama
Tartous
Homs
LEBANON
IRAQ
Rural Damascus
Damascus
Quneitra
Dar'a
As-Sweida
JORDAN
Legend
Request to besieged areas
Request to HTR areas
Request to other areas
Requested in July convoy plan
Convoy completed
Airlift completed
Airdrop completed
Hard-to-reach areas
Number and percentage of people reached each month in besieged areas*
590,200
Population in besieged areas
People in besieged areas
People reached with food in besieged areas
*Estimated besieged population as of 22 June 2016.
* YB6: Yalda, Babeela, Beit Sahm
** Number of people in besieged, HTR, and other priority XL locations provided with multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance including food for at least one month in 2016.
*** Other priority areas located across conflict lines with a high prevalence of humanitarian needs.
**** 4 Towns: Az-Zabdani, Madaya, Foah & Kafrzya.
† New number of people that received or will receive food assistance sufficient for one month within a 30-day period.
In the case of Deir-ez-Zor city beneficiaries of partial rations are classified as receiving new assistance once the planned food materials are delivered in full or a new round of deliveries begin.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

United Nations S/2016/632

Security Council

Distr.: General
20 July 2016

Original: English

Letter dated 15 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 11 May 2016 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, Ibrahim Al-Jaafari, addressed to the Secretary-General regarding the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (see annex).

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annex could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohamed Ali **Alhakim**
Permanent Representative

16-12563 (E) 210716 210716

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 15 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

I have the honour to convey to you the wish of the Government of Iraq that the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) should be extended for a further period of one year through 31 July 2017, in accordance with the letter and spirit of the conditions set out in Security Council resolution 1770 (2007). The Government of Iraq would also like the Mission to continue to provide assistance and advice, upon the request of the Government.

The Government of Iraq reaffirms the importance of the role of the United Nations, and of UNAMI in particular, in providing advice, support and assistance to the Iraqi people and the Government. Iraq is passing through an extremely sensitive and dangerous stage of its contemporary history, and today faces enormous challenges as it fights, on behalf of the world, against terrorist groups, in the form of the gangs of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). As a result of the war against those terrorist gangs and their acts of terrorism, 3 million Iraqis have been displaced from their homes and towns and forced to leave their businesses in the areas under the control of the ISIL gangs. Iraq is in dire need of the assistance of UNAMI in providing for the logistical requirements to ensure a decent life for those displaced families.

(*Signed*) Ibrahim **Al-Jaafari**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq

United Nations A/70/995–S/2016/633

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 July 2016

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventieth session
Agenda item 34
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Letter dated 18 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government, I am hereby transmitting the record of the ceasefire violations by the Azerbaijani armed forces during the month of June (see annex I).*

I am also transmitting the record of the Ministry of Defence of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, as a result of the continued military aggression of Azerbaijan against the Republic, during the month of June 2016 (see annex II).*

I kindly request that the present letter and its annexes be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Zohrab **Mnatsakanyan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* The annexes are being circulated in the language of submission only.

16-12683 (E) 280716

Please recycle

Annex I to the letter dated 18 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Violations of the ceasefire by the armed forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan along the State border with the Republic of Armenia

1-30 June 2016

Date	*Direction*	*Incidents*	*Type of weapons/shots*
1 June	Tavush, Ararat Regions	3	AK: 3
	Chinari	1	RPK: 2
	Vazashen	1	SVD: 4
	Yeraskh	1	
2 June	Tavush, Gegharkunik Regions	3	RPK: 19
	Chinari	1	SVD: 3
	Aygepar	1	Istiglal: 1 (Pambak 1)
	Pambak	1	
3 June	Tavush, Vayoc Dzor Regions	21	AK: 308
	Chinari	13	PK, RPK: 135
	Aygedzor	5	SVD: 87
	Aygepar	2	Istiglal: 4 (Chinari 4)
	Khndzorut	1	Black Arrow: 5 (Chinari 5)
4 June	Ararat Region	1	AK: 1
	Yeraskh	1	
5 June	Tavush, Ararat Regions	2	AK: 5
	Chinari	1	SVD: 3
	Paruyr Sevak	1	
6 June	Tavush Region	1	PK: 8
	Vazashen	1	
7 June	Ararat Region	2	AK: 10
	Paruyr Sevak	2	
8 June	Tavush Region	2	AKM: 10
	Aygedzor	1	RPK: 15
	Vazashen	1	
9 June	Tavush Region	2	AKM: 3
	Movses	1	Utyos: 15
	Baghanis	1	

Date	Direction	Incidents	Type of weapon: shots
10 June	Tavush Region	9	AKM: 104
	N. Karmiraghbyur	3	PK: 160
	Aygepar	1	DShK: 30
	Movses	1	Black Arrow: 20 (Barekamavan 20)
	Kayan	1	
	Barekamavan	3	
11 June	Tavush Region	1	SVD: 5
	Aygedzor	1	DShK: 171
12 June	Tavush Region	5	PK: 40
	Movses	4	SVD: 31
	Koti	1	
13 June	Tavush Region	4	AKM: 15
	Chinari	1	PK: 20
	Vazashen	2	SVD: 15
	Aygehovit	1	
14 June	Tavush, Gegharkunik Regions	5	AK: 15
	Vazashen	2	PK: 10
	Voskepar	1	Istiglal: 2 (Vazashen 2)
	Chambarak	2	
15 June	Tavush, Gegharkunik Regions	8	AKM: 26
	Chinari	2	PK: 55
	Aygedzor	2	Black Arrow: 10 (Aygedzor 8, Chinari 2)
	Vazashen	1	
	Sarigyugh	1	
	Kayan	1	
	Jil	1	
16 June	Tavush, Gegharkunik Regions	3	AK: 6
	Movses	1	PK: 60
	Vazashen	1	
	Chambarak	1	
17 June	Tavush, Vayoc Dzor Regions	11	AKM: 86
	Aygedzor	1	PK: 75
	Chinari	4	Black Arrow: 16 (Aygedzor 6; Chinari 2; Movses 8)
	Aygepar	1	
	N. Karmiraghbyur	1	
	Movses	1	

Date	Direction	Incidents	Type of weapons/shots
	Paravaqar	1	
	Barekamavan	1	
	Khndzorut	1	
18 June	Tavush Region	3	AK, AKM: 21
	Chinari	2	PK: 15
	Vazashen	1	
19 June	Tavush, Gegharkunik Regions	4	AKM: 10
	Chinari	1	PK: 45
	Movses	1	
	Aygepar	1	
	Chambarak	1	
20 June	Tavush Region	1	PK: 5
	Vazashen	1	
21 June	Tavush, Gegharkunik Regions	3	AKM: 5
	Aygehovit	1	
	Daranak	2	
22 June	Tavush, Gegharkunik, Ararat Regions	5	AKM: 4
	Chinari	2	PK, RPK: 30
	Daranak	2	Istiglal: 16 (Daranak 16)
	Yeraskh	1	
23 June	No accidents		
24 June	Tavush Region	15	AKM: 129
	Aygedzor	3	PK, PKM: 118
	Chinari	3	CVD: 10
	N. Karmiraghbyur	3	Black Arrow: 8 (Aygedzor 8)
	Paravaqar	1	
	Aygepar	2	
	Movses	1	
	Vazashen	1	
	Aygehovit	1	
25 June	Tavush, Ararat Regions	4	AKM: 13
	Berkaber	1	RPK: 1
	Yeraskh	3	
26 June	Tavush Region	1	CVD: 5
	Chinari	1	

Date	*Direction*	*Incidents*	*Type of weapons/shots*
27 June	Gegharkunik Region	1	PK: 15
	Daranak	1	
28 June	Tavush Region	5	AKM: 41
	Chinari	1	PK: 20
	Paravakar	1	
	Kirants	1	
	Voskepar	1	
	Aygehovit	1	
29 June	Tavush, Ararat, Vayoc Dzor Regions	7	AKM: 27
	Chinari	2	PK, RPK: 17
	Vazashen	2	CVD: 3
	Yeraskh	2	
	Khachik	1	
30 June	Gegharkunik, Tavush, Vayoc Dzor Regions	5	AK:45
	Chambarak	1	RPK: 2
	Paravaqar	1	PK: 20
	Vazashen	1	DSHK: 15
	Bardzruni	1	Black Arrow: 10 (Khachik 10)
	Khachik	1	

Annex II to the letter dated 18 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Violations of the ceasefire by the armed forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the line of contact with Nagorno Karabakh Republic

Date	*Direction*	*Incidents*	*Type of weapons/Shots*
1 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	5	AK: 93 PK: 10
2 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	21	AK: 383 PK: 57 SVD: 10 DShK: 250 AGS-17: 2 (Nuzger 2) Istiglal: 18 (Seysulan 18)
3 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	14	AK, AKM: 264 PK: 30 SVD: 9
4 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	17	AK: 223 PK: 61 SVD: 1 NSVP: 52
5 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	20	AK: 187 PK: 15 SVD: 1 Istiglal: 3 (Nuzger 3)
6 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	8	AK: 126 PK: 74 SVD: 15 Istiglal: 10 (VerinChaylu 10)
7 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	7	AK: 39 PK: 30 Istiglal: 3 (Gyulistan 3)
8 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	8	AK: 38 PK: 45 Black Arrow: 2 (Yusifjanli 2)
9 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	2	AK: 35

Date	Direction	Incidents	Type of weapons/Shots
10 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	10	AK: 309 PK: 190 SVD: 20
11 June	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	14	AK: 161 SVD: 3
12 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	9	AK: 68 SVD, Vintarez 5 AGS-17: 1 (Qarvend 1)
13 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	6	AK: 142 SVD: 10
14 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	8	AK: 108 PK: 55 Istiglal: 1 (Seysulan 1)
15 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	4	AK: 60 SVD: 24 Istiglal: 3 (Seysulan 3)
16 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	18	AK: 264 PK: 29 SVD: 2 DShK, Utyos: 37 Istiglal: 15 (Seysulan 11, VerinChaylu 4)
17 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	14	AK: 155 PK: 15 SVD: 14 DShK: 40 Istiglal: 22 (Darcinar 2; Horadiz 10; Yarmja 1; Seysulan 7; VerinChaylu 2)
18 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	6	AK: 66 PK: 40
19 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	11	AK: 205 PK: 108 SVD: 2 Istiglal: 7 (Seysulan 7)
20 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	6	AK: 17 PK: 30

Date	Direction	Incidents	Type of weapons/Shots
21 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	11	AK: 16 PK: 175
22 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	11	AK: 67 PK: 20 SVD: 3 DShK: 5 Istiglal: 40 (Gyulistan 40)
23 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	9	AK: 271 PK: 20 RPG-7: 1 (Geytape 1)
24 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	8	AK: 53 PK: 51 Hand Grenade: 1 (Bash Qarvend 1) GP-25: 1 (Tallish 1)
25 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	13	AK: 55 PK: 33 SVD: 31 GP-25: 1 (Talish 1)
26 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	18	On the LOC AK: 91 PK: 20 SVD: 33 Istiglal: 4 (Horadiz 3; Seysulan 1)
27 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	13	AK: 42 PK: 32 SVD: 44
28 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	12	AK, AKM: 66 PK: 9 SVD: 36
29 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	12	AK: 77 PK: 29 DShK: 95 Istiglal: 8 (Gyulistan 5; Talish 3)
30 May	On the Line of Contact between the Armed Forces of Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan	10	AK: 121 PK: 88 Istiglal: 4 (Talish 4)

From 1 to 30 June, 1 soldier of the NKR Defense Army was wounded from the Azerbaijani side.

United Nations S/2016/634

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2016
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 20 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I am writing to inform you about a cowardly terrorist crime committed by armed terrorist groups against a child in Syria on Tuesday, 19 July 2016.

Terrorists from the Nur al-Din al-Zanki brigade, which is categorized by certain States as a "moderate armed opposition" group, acting in cold blood, murdered a Palestinian child no more than 12 years old, in public and before a crowd of people with cameras.

Video clips recorded by the terrorists and braggingly disseminated on the media sites of the so-called moderate opposition show the 12-year-old child dressed in civilian clothes surrounded by a group of terrorists in a pickup truck. Visible on one of his bare hands are bruises and wounds. A later clip shows one of the gunmen claiming that the child was a fighter in the Palestinian Al-Quds Brigade, and that he was captured during the clashes in the Handarat camp north of Aleppo.

Civilian testimony confirmed that the child is a Palestinian by the name of Abdullah Isa and that he was one of the remaining residents of the Handarat Palestinian refugee camp in Aleppo governorate. He was seized and taken away by the terrorists, who alleged that he was a fighter in the Palestinian Al-Quds Brigade, an allegation denied by officials of that brigade in a statement to the media.

Subsequently, the video recording shows one of the butchers from the Nur al-Din al-Zanki brigade slitting the child's throat then cutting off his head, to the shouts and cheers of the rest of the terrorists.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic condemns this savage and iniquitous crime committed by the Nur al-Din al-Zanki terrorist brigade, which is supported and financed by the hate-mongering and extremist regimes in Riyadh, Doha and Ankara, and by the United States administration and other Western countries. Some parties insist on bestowing upon groups such as this the epithet "moderate opposition groups" and supplying them with money and weapons, while closing their eyes to the despicable crimes committed by these so-called moderates, such as the terrorist Nusrah Front, the Army of Conquest, the Army of Islam, Liwa' al-Tawhid, the Nur al-Din al-Zanki brigade, the Badr Martyrs Brigade, the Emigrants Brigade, the Islamic Front and other groups associated with or affiliated to Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and Al-Qaida.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic calls on the Secretary-General and the Security Council to condemn all of the crimes that have been committed against Syrian citizens and the camps of the Palestinian people in Syria, and to condemn the horrific, repulsive crime against this 12-year-old child. Syria also calls on the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to condemn this horrific crime, as he is supposed to be responsible for upholding human rights and ensuring that everyone, particularly children, women and the elderly, can enjoy them. If his staff have not informed him of this heinous incident, the Syrian Government urges him to watch it on YouTube or on the BBC News website.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic once again warns the Secretary-General, the Security Council and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights that they cannot remain silent about the crimes of the armed terrorist groups, which some refer to as "moderate opposition groups". Failure to take deterrent action against the terrorists and their sponsors sends a clear message to the terrorists that they can step up their criminal activities. Moreover, the United States of America, France, Britain and the Ukraine have rejected requests to include the organizations Army of Islam and Ahrar al-Sham on the Security Council lists of terrorist groups, undertakings and entities. That approach also sends a clear message to the terrorists that they can continue to slaughter, destroy, loot and steal. It shows that those and other States, particularly France, Britain, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey, are not serious about combating and suppressing terrorism. Indeed, it is a testament to their hypocrisy and double standards in the war on terrorism.

Any party that genuinely wishes to fight terrorism must coordinate with the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and its army, which is fighting terrorism throughout Syria. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic calls for this crime to be condemned, along with all of the other crimes that are being committed on a daily basis against children, women, men and the elderly in Syria. It calls on the Security Council to assume its responsibility to uphold international peace and security by taking punitive measures against those States and regimes that support and fund terrorism; by preventing them from persisting in that course of action and jeopardizing international peace and security; and by compelling them to comply fully with the relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014), 2199 (2015) and 2253 (2015).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2016/635

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2016

Original: English

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolution 1970 (2011) and all its subsequent resolutions on Libya, and support for the Government of National Accord,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Libya,

Recalling the objective of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (the "Chemical Weapons Convention") to exclude completely the possibility of the use of chemical weapons,

Recalling Libya's accession to the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2004, and the subsequent decisions of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Executive Council concerning the destruction of Libya's declared chemical weapons, including precursors and notes the need for continued progress in this regard to ensure the complete destruction of Libya's chemical weapons,

Welcoming the decision EC-M-52/DEC.1 of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) of 20 July on the "Destruction of Libya's Remaining Chemical Weapons",

Noting a letter dated 16 July from the Libyan National Authority for the Chemical Weapons Convention to the OPCW Director-General informing the Secretariat of the movement of all of its remaining chemical weapons to a storage site in the north of the country, requesting the assistance and support of the Secretariat and States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention in ensuring the destruction of Libya's remaining category 2 chemical weapons on an expedited basis, and expressing the intent of Libya to cooperate fully with the OPCW,

Recalling the joint announcement, dated 4 February 2014, by Libya and OPCW on the complete destruction of Libya's category 1 chemical weapons,

Determining that the potential for acquisition by non-State actors of chemical weapons in Libya represents a threat to international peace and security,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Endorses* the decision EC-M-52/DEC.1 of the Executive Council of the OPCW on 20 July requesting the Director-General to assist Libya in developing a

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modified plan of destruction of Libya's chemical weapons, that will be considered by the Executive Council, along with recommendations from the Director General for additional measures needed to ensure the expeditious transport, storage and destruction of Libya's chemical weapons and expressing the Executive Council's determination to ensure the destruction of Libya's chemical weapons stockpile in a safe and expeditious manner;

2. *Encourages* Member States to assist the Government of National Accord in providing support, including personnel, technical expertise, information, equipment, and financial and other resources and assistance, in coordination with the Director-General of the OPCW, to enable the OPCW to implement the elimination of Libya's category 2 chemical weapons safely and in the soonest practicable timescale;

3. *Decides* to authorize Member States to acquire, control, transport, transfer and destroy chemical weapons identified by the Director-General of the OPCW, consistent with the objective of the Chemical Weapons Convention, to ensure the elimination of Libya's chemical weapons stockpile in the soonest and safest manner, with appropriate consultations with the Government of National Accord;

4. *Requests* the Director-General of the OPCW, through the Secretary-General, to report to the Security Council, on activities related to the implementation of OPCW Executive Council Decision EC-M-52/DEC.1 of this resolution on a regular basis until the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons is complete and verified;

5. *Reminds* Member States of their obligation under resolution 1540 (2004) that all States shall take and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, and *reaffirms* its decision that Member States shall inform the Security Council immediately of any violation of resolution 1540 including acquisition by non-State actors of chemical weapons, their means of delivery and related materials;

6. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

United Nations S/2016/636

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 July 2016

Original: English

United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous relevant resolutions on Iraq, in particular 1500 (2003), 1546 (2004), 1557 (2004), 1619 (2005), 1700 (2006), 1770 (2007), 1830 (2008), 1883 (2009), 1936 (2010), 2001 (2011), 2061 (2012), 2110 (2013), 2169 (2014), and 2233 (2015), and resolution 2107 (2013) on the situation between Iraq and Kuwait,

Reaffirming the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq,

Emphasizing the importance of the stability and security of Iraq for the people of Iraq, the region, and the international community,

Reiterating its grave concern at the current security situation in Iraq as a result of the continuing presence of and threat by terrorist groups, in particular the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) and associated armed groups, involving violations of international humanitarian law, heavy civilian casualties, including women and children, the displacement of more than three million Iraqi civilians, the systematic use of sexual violence and sexual enslavement, persecution of individuals on the basis of their religion, belief or ethnicity, and the threat to the safety of journalists, media professionals, and associated personnel, *condemning* the attacks perpetrated by these terrorist groups and associated armed groups against the people of Iraq in an attempt to destabilize the country and region, *expressing* its sympathies to the families of all victims of terror attacks, and *further reiterating* its commitment to Iraq's security and territorial integrity,

Noting that the presence of ISIL (Da'esh) on Iraq's sovereign territory is a major threat to Iraq's future, *underscoring* that the only way to address this threat is for all Iraqis to work together by addressing needs in the security as well as the political realm, *stressing* the long-term solution to the instability will require the political leadership of Iraq to make decisions that will unite the country, and *emphasizing* the importance of the international community supporting Iraq in this regard,

Calling on all political entities to intensify efforts to overcome divisions and work together in an inclusive and timely political process aimed at reaching consensus on a single vision for reconciliation and strengthening Iraq's national unity, sovereignty and independence and for Iraq's leaders to engage in dialogue

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that would contribute to finding a viable and sustainable solution to the country's current challenges, and *reaffirming* its belief that through its democratic institutions, in cooperation with Iraqi society, the Government of Iraq can work to address the challenges facing the country for the benefit of all Iraqis,

Underscoring the need for all segments of the Iraqi population to participate in the political process, in inclusive political dialogue, including through the equal participation of women, and in the economic and social life of Iraq, to refrain from statements and actions which could aggravate tensions, to reach a comprehensive solution on the fair distribution of resources, to promote stability, to develop a just and fair solution for the nation's disputed internal boundaries, and to work to strengthen national unity, including through cooperation between the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government in the spirit of genuine partnership, and *stressing* the importance of a comprehensive and inclusive Iraqi-led political process to support dialogue for all those who renounce violence, have no links to international terrorist organizations, including ISIL (Da'esh), and respect the constitution,

Encouraging the Government of Iraq to continue strengthening governance, pursuing more substantive reforms, particularly economic and institutional reforms to improve the standard of living for all Iraqis, including by countering corruption, promoting human rights and the rule of law, improving the situation of women and girls, especially those impacted by ISIL (Da'esh), improving security and public order, including through security sector reform, and combating terrorism and sectarian violence, *reiterating* its support to the people and the Government of Iraq in their efforts to build a secure, stable, federal, united and democratic nation, based on the rule of law and respect for human rights, and *strongly emphasizing* the need for the Government of Iraq to conduct, in an independent manner, full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations and hold to account those responsible for violations or abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law,

Emphasizing the need to continue efforts to promote international and regional cooperation aimed at supporting Iraq both in its reconciliation and political dialogue and in its fight against ISIL (Da'esh), and to prevent ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida, and associated individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities designated by the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011), and 2253 (2015), from using the territories of Iraq and neighbouring States to carry out violence or other illicit acts to destabilize Iraq and the region,

Recognizing that terrorism poses a threat to international peace and security and that countering this threat requires collective efforts on national, regional and international levels on the basis of respect for international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, and in this context, *welcoming* the efforts of the Government of Iraq and its partners to counter ISIL (Da'esh), hold it accountable for its abuses, and return stability throughout the country, and also *welcoming* the Government of Iraq's successes in liberation from ISIL (Da'esh) of Sinjar, Bayji, Ramadi, Hit, and most recently Fallujah, marking a major step in the continuing international effort to defeat ISIL (Da'esh),

Reaffirming that all parties, including armed groups and militias, must respect human rights and abide by all applicable obligations under international humanitarian law, including those to protect the civilian population, including

civilians displaced from and returning to areas liberated from ISIL (Da'esh), by which both official Iraqi forces and Member States that assist them must also abide, and while acknowledging legitimate security measures to identify members of ISIL (Da'esh), *calling* on all parties to immediately release any arbitrarily or unlawfully detained persons, *emphasizing* that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, including those involving sexual and gender-based violence, must be held accountable, *welcoming* the establishment by Prime Minister of Iraq Haider al-Abadi of a committee to investigate reported violations and abuses, including the reports of missing men and boys from Fallujah, and *stressing* the need for all such allegations, wherever they occur, to be immediately and comprehensively investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted,

Emphasizing that all parties should take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians, including children, women and members of religious and ethnic minority groups, and should create conditions conducive to the voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable return of refugees and internally displaced persons or local integration of internally displaced persons, particularly in areas newly liberated from ISIL (Da'esh), including up to 90,000 people displaced from Fallujah since May 2016, *stressing* respect for freedom of movement of internally displaced persons, without discrimination, including with regard to resettlement, returns or protection, *reiterating* its gratitude to the host communities, *underscoring* that host communities should provide access to safe areas for internally displaced persons and that those who commit violations and abuses against them should be held accountable, *welcoming* commitments and encouraging continued efforts of the Government of Iraq for the relief of internally displaced persons, refugees and returnees, *noting* the important role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, based on its mandate, in providing continued advice and support to the Government of Iraq, in coordination with the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), on these issues, and *encouraging* the Government of Iraq to continue working with UNAMI and humanitarian agencies to ensure the delivery of humanitarian relief to all those in need,

Emphasizing the importance of efforts to support stabilization and long-term sustainable development, particularly in areas liberated from ISIL (Da'esh), *urging* the Government of Iraq and its partners to accelerate such efforts in order to create the conditions for the voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable return of refugees and internally displaced persons, *welcoming* efforts of Member States to support the Government of Iraq and its partners as they work to stabilize these areas, *encouraging* Member States to continue to support stabilization and development, including through the United Nations, *recognizing* the threat of hazardous explosive devices, *welcoming* efforts by member states to support the Government of Iraq and its partners in addressing the need to provide risk education, appropriate threat assessments, and conduct clearance of areas of such devices, and *encouraging* Member States to continue such support,

Strongly emphasizing the urgency of addressing humanitarian challenges confronting the Iraqi people, *stressing* the need to intensify efforts to plan and implement a coordinated response and to provide adequate resources to address these challenges, *calling* for an intensification of these efforts by all parties, *urging* all Member States to continue to fund United Nations and other humanitarian appeals, *encouraging* Member States to support the United Nations' humanitarian

response in Iraq, working with the Government of Iraq, to assist all Iraqi individuals affected by the ongoing conflict, and *commending* the efforts of Member States that have contributed to the humanitarian effort,

Urging all those concerned to allow full unimpeded access for humanitarian personnel to all people in need, to make available, as far as possible, all necessary facilities for their operations, to allow the delivery of humanitarian assistance, to promote the safety, security, and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel and United Nations staff, its associated personnel and their assets, and also to respect and protect medical personnel and medical transport and facilities,

Urging the Government of Iraq to continue to promote and protect human rights and also to consider additional steps to support the Independent High Commission for Human Rights in carrying out its mandate, *encouraging* the Government of Iraq to reinvigorate its efforts to promote and protect the rights of women and reaffirming its resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013) and 2242 (2015) on women, peace, and security and reiterating the need for the full, equal, and effective participation of women, *reaffirming* the key role women can play in re-establishing the fabric of society, *stressing* the need for their full political participation, including in local and national reconciliation and peace processes, stabilization planning, political decision making, and *expressing* concern about the lack of implementation, including funding, of Iraq's National Action Plan on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) as well as the lack of a national entity responsible for its implementation,

Expressing strong concern at continuing violations and abuses committed against children, including those involving the recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, abductions, and attacks against schools and hospitals, and urging all parties to conflict to take all necessary measures to end and prevent such violations and abuses, recalling in this regard its resolutions 1379 (2001), 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009), 1998 (2011) and 2225 (2015), and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Iraq (S/2015/852) and the conclusions of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict,

Expressing grave concern that the violent extremism and terrorism perpetrated by ISIL (Da'esh) in Iraq has systematically targeted women and children, especially those from minority communities, and that ISIL (Da'esh) has committed serious human rights abuses, and violations of international humanitarian law against all people, particularly women and children, including those involving murder, kidnapping, hostage-taking, suicide bombings, enslavement, sale into or otherwise forced marriage, human trafficking, rape, sexual slavery and other forms of sexual violence, *further* expressing grave concern at the recruitment and use of children by ISIL (Da'esh) and other armed groups in violation of international law,

Condemning the destruction of cultural heritage in Iraq particularly by ISIL (Da'esh), including targeted destruction of religious sites and objects and noting with concern that ISIL (Da'esh) and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, are generating income from engaging directly or indirectly in the looting and smuggling of cultural heritage items from archaeological sites, museums, libraries, archives, and other sites in Iraq, which is being used to support their recruitment efforts and strengthen their operational capability to organize and carry out terrorist attacks,

Expressing its readiness to sanction further individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities who are supporting ISIL (Da'esh), *also expressing* grave concern over reports of access to and seizure of oilfields and pipelines in Iraq by terrorist groups listed by the Committee, *strongly condemning* any engagement in direct or indirect trade in oil and refined oil products, modular refineries and related material, other natural resources, and antiquities from Iraq involving these terrorist groups, as well as drug trafficking, consistent with resolution 2199 (2015) and 2253 (2015), as well as human trafficking, sale of women and girls, and forced marriage, and *emphasizing* that such engagement constitutes financial support for such terrorists and may lead to further sanctions listings by the Committee,

Reaffirming that all States shall ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation, or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice,

Recognizing that the situation that now exists in Iraq is significantly different from that which existed at the time of the adoption of resolution 661 (1990), and *further recognizing* the importance of Iraq achieving international standing equal to that which it held prior to the adoption of resolution 661 (1990),

Welcoming the political, military and financial assistance to the Government of Iraq from Member States, and *encouraging* such assistance to continue and expand,

Stressing the importance of the United Nations, in particular UNAMI, in advising, supporting and assisting the Iraqi people, including civil society, and the Government of Iraq to strengthen democratic institutions, advance inclusive political dialogue and national reconciliation according to the Constitution, ensure reconciliation efforts are coordinated, facilitate regional dialogue, develop processes acceptable to the Government of Iraq to resolve disputed internal boundaries, aid youth and vulnerable groups, including refugees and internally displaced persons, and promote the full participation of women in political and peace processes and institutions, gender equality and the protection of human rights, children and youth, and vulnerable groups, *highlighting* the need for specific information and practical recommendations related to the gender dimensions of the conflict and on the implementation of women, peace and security agenda in Iraq, and the swift deployment of dedicated expertise such as Women Protection Advisors to accelerate the coordinated implementation of monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, and *emphasizing* the importance of the United Nations, in particular UNAMI, in prioritizing advice, support, and assistance to the Iraqi people, including civil society, and the Government of Iraq to achieve these goals,

Taking note of the Secretary-General's report of 26 October 2015 (S/2015/530) that UNAMI commenced a process towards implementing the recommended priority activities of the strategic assessment mission and *encouraging* UNAMI to continue to revise and prioritize its tasks in full consultation with the Government of Iraq and in response to its needs and the evolving situation in the country,

Expressing deep gratitude to all the United Nations staff in Iraq for their courageous and tireless efforts, and commending the leadership and good offices role of the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Iraq, Ján Kubiš,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) until 31 July 2017;

2. *Decides* further that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UNAMI, at the request of the Government of Iraq, and taking into account the letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq to the Secretary-General (S/2016/632), shall continue to pursue their mandate as stipulated in resolution 2233 (2015); and *recalls* the provisions of resolution 2107 (2013);

3. *Recognizes* that security of United Nations personnel is essential for UNAMI to carry out its work for the benefit of the people of Iraq and *calls upon* the Government of Iraq to continue to provide security and logistical support to the United Nations presence in Iraq;

4. *Welcomes* the contributions of Member States in providing UNAMI with the financial, logistical, and security resources and support that it needs to fulfil its mission and calls upon Member States to continue to provide UNAMI with sufficient resources and support;

5. *Expresses* its intention to review the mandate of UNAMI in twelve months or sooner, if requested by the Government of Iraq;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council every three months on the progress made towards the fulfilment of all UNAMI's responsibilities;

7. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

United Nations S/2016/637

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 July 2016

Original: English

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 8 July 2016 (S/2016/598) on the United Nations operation in Cyprus,

Noting that the Government of Cyprus is agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions on the island it is necessary to keep the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) beyond 31 July 2016,

Noting the intention of the Secretary-General to report on his Good Offices in the next reporting period, *echoing* the Secretary-General's firm belief that the responsibility for finding a solution lies first and foremost with the Cypriots themselves, and *reaffirming* the primary role of the United Nations in assisting the parties to bring the Cyprus conflict and division of the island to a comprehensive and durable settlement,

Welcoming the commitments set out in Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders' Joint Statements of 15 May 2016 and 8 June 2016 on the basis of the Joint Declaration adopted on 11 February 2014, further welcoming the good progress in negotiations since then, and the support provided by the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Cyprus Espen Barth Eide,

Recalling the importance attached by the international community to all parties engaging fully, flexibly and constructively in the negotiations and, *noting* that the negotiations have not yet resulted in an enduring, comprehensive and just settlement based on a bicommunal, bizonal federation with political equality, as set out in the relevant Security Council resolutions, *encouraging* the sides to intensify the substantive negotiations on the unresolved core issues interdependently, and stressing that the status quo is unsustainable,

Noting the need to advance the consideration of and discussions on military confidence building measures, *calling for* renewed efforts to implement all remaining confidence building measures, and for agreement on and implementation of further steps to build trust between the communities,

Reaffirming the importance of continued crossings of the Green Line by Cypriots, and encouraging the opening by mutual agreement of other crossing points,

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Convinced of the many important benefits, including economic benefits for all Cypriots that would flow from a comprehensive and durable Cyprus settlement, *urging* the two sides and their leaders to foster positive public rhetoric, and *encouraging* them clearly to explain the benefits of the settlement, as well as the need for increased flexibility and compromise in order to secure it, to both communities well in advance of any referenda,

Highlighting the importance, both political and financial, of the supporting role of the international community, and in particular that of all parties concerned in taking practical steps towards helping the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders to exploit fully the current opportunity,

Taking note of the assessment of the Secretary-General that the security situation on the island and along the Green Line remains stable, and *urging* all sides to avoid any action, including violations of the military status quo, which could lead to an increase in tension, undermine the progress achieved so far, or damage the goodwill on the island,

Recalling the Secretary-General's firm belief that the situation in the buffer zone would be improved if both sides accepted the 1989 aide-memoire used by the United Nations,

Noting with regret that the sides are withholding access to the remaining minefields in the buffer zone, and that demining in Cyprus must continue, *noting* the continued danger posed by mines in Cyprus, *noting also* proposals and discussions as well as positive initiatives on demining, and *urging* rapid agreement on facilitating the recommencement of demining operations and clearance of the remaining minefields,

Commending the work of the Committee on Missing Persons, *highlighting* the importance of intensifying its activities, and therefore the need to provide all information required, *noting* that nearly half of all missing persons have yet to be located and around 68% have yet to be identified, *welcoming* moves to allow the Committee access to 30 additional suspected burial sites in military areas in north Cyprus, *urging* the opening up of access to all areas expeditiously to allow the Committee to carry out its work, and *trusting* that this process will promote reconciliation between the communities,

Agreeing that active participation of civil society groups, including women's groups, is essential to the political process and can contribute to making any future settlement sustainable, *recalling* that women play a critically important role in peace processes, *welcoming* all efforts to promote bicommunal contacts and events including, inter alia, on the part of all United Nations bodies on the island, and *urging* the two sides to promote the active engagement of civil society and the encouragement of cooperation between economic and commercial bodies and to remove all obstacles to such contacts,

Stressing the need for the Council to pursue a rigorous, strategic approach to peacekeeping deployments,

Welcoming the intention of the Secretary-General to keep all peacekeeping operations under close review to ensure efficiency and effectiveness, *including* a review of UNFICYP when appropriate, and *noting* the importance of transition planning in relation to the settlement, including recommendations as appropriate for

further adjustments to UNFICYP's mandate, force levels and other resources and concept of operations, taking into account developments on the ground and the views of the parties,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of Lisa Buttenheim as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Force Commander Major General Kristin Lund, the Secretary-General's appointment of Special Adviser Espen Barth Eide, and the Secretary-General's appointment of Special Representative Elizabeth Spehar,

Echoing the Secretary-General's gratitude to the Government of Cyprus and the Government of Greece for their voluntary contributions to the funding of UNFICYP, and his request for further voluntary contributions from other countries and organizations, and *expressing* appreciation to Member States that contribute personnel to UNFICYP,

Welcoming and encouraging efforts by the United Nations to sensitize peacekeeping personnel in the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases in all its peacekeeping operations,

1. *Welcomes* the progress of the leaders-led negotiations so far and the ongoing efforts of the leaders and their negotiators to reach a comprehensive and durable settlement, and *encourages* the sides to grasp the current opportunity with determination to secure a comprehensive settlement;

2. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General (S/2016/598) and (S/2016/599);

3. *Recalls* Security Council resolution 2263 (2016), and *calls* upon the two leaders to:

(a) Put their efforts behind further work on reaching convergences on the core issues;

(b) Continue to work with the Technical Committees with the objective of improving the daily lives of the Cypriots;

(c) Improve the public atmosphere for the negotiations, including by focussing public messages on convergences and the way ahead, and delivering more constructive and harmonised messages; and

(d) Increase the participation of civil society in the process as appropriate;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify transition planning in relation to a settlement, guided by developments in negotiations, and encourages the sides to engage with each other, as well as with UNFICYP and the United Nations Good Offices mission on issues related to the implementation of a settlement;

5. *Urges* the implementation of confidence-building measures, and *looks forward* to agreement on and implementation of further such mutually-acceptable steps, including military confidence building measures and the opening of crossing points already agreed upon and others, that can contribute to a conducive environment for a settlement;

6. *Welcomes* all efforts to accommodate the Committee on Missing Persons exhumation requirements as well as the joint appeal for information issued by the

two leaders on 28 May 2015, and *calls upon* all parties to provide more expeditious, full access to all areas, given the need to intensify the Committee's work;

7. *Reaffirms* all its relevant resolutions on Cyprus, in particular resolution 1251 (1999) of 29 June 1999 and subsequent resolutions;

8. *Expresses* its full support for UNFICYP and *decides* to extend its mandate for a further period ending 31 January 2017;

9. *Calls* on both sides to continue to engage, as a matter of urgency and while respecting UNFICYP's mandate, in consultations with UNFICYP on the demarcation of the buffer zone, and on the United Nations 1989 aide-memoire, with a view to reaching early agreement on outstanding issues;

10. *Calls* on the Turkish Cypriot side and Turkish forces to restore in Strovilia the military status quo which existed there prior to 30 June 2000;

11. *Calls* on both sides to allow access to deminers and to facilitate the removal of the remaining mines in Cyprus within the buffer zone, and urges both sides to extend demining operations outside the buffer zone;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on implementation of this resolution, including on transition planning in relation to the settlement, by 8 January 2017 and to keep the Security Council updated on events as necessary;

13. *Welcomes* the efforts being undertaken by UNFICYP to implement the Secretary-General's zero tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure full compliance of its personnel with the United Nations code of conduct, *requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary action in this regard and to keep the Security Council informed, and *urges* troop-contributing countries to take appropriate preventive action including the conduct of predeployment awareness training, and to take disciplinary action and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

14. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

United Nations S/2016/638

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 July 2016

Original: English

France: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions and statements on the Central African Republic (CAR), in particular resolutions 2121 (2013), 2127 (2013), 2134 (2014), 2149 (2014), 2181 (2014), 2196 (2015), 2212 (2015), 2217 (2015), 2262 (2016), 2264 (2016), 2281 (2016), as well as resolution 2272 (2016), and its Presidential Statements S/PRST/2014/28 of 18 December 2014 and S/PRST/2015/17 of 20 October 2015,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the CAR, and *recalling* the importance of the principles of non-interference, good-neighbourliness and regional cooperation,

Reaffirming the basic principles of peacekeeping, including consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force, except in self-defence and defence of the mandate; *recognizing* that the mandate of each peacekeeping mission is specific to the need and situation of the country concerned, and *recalling*, in this regard, its Presidential Statement S/PRST/2015/22 of 25 November 2015,

Recalling that the CAR Authorities have the primary responsibility to protect all populations in the CAR in particular from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity,

Emphasizing that any sustainable solution to the crisis in the CAR should be CAR-owned, including the political process, and should prioritize reconciliation of the Central African people, through an inclusive process that involves men and women of all social, economic, political, religious and ethnic backgrounds, including, those displaced by the crisis,

Welcoming in this regard the joint action of some domestic religious leaders at the national level in trying to pacify relations and end violence between religious communities and noting the need to amplify their voices at the local level,

Noting with concern that while improving, the security situation in the CAR remains fragile, due to the continued presence of armed groups and other armed spoilers, as well as the ongoing violence, the lack of capacity of the national security forces, and the persistence of the root causes of the conflict,

Condemning the multiple violations of international humanitarian law and the widespread human rights violations and abuses, committed notably by both ex-Seleka elements and militia groups, in particular the "anti-Balaka",

Condemning also the recent and ongoing acts of violence and criminality in Bangui, including the kidnapping of CAR police by armed groups, as well as incidents in the interior of the country, particularly in Ngaoundaye and Bambari, which have caused displacement of local populations, as well as by the recent attacks and abductions perpetrated by the Lord's Resistance Army in the southeast since the beginning of the year,

Recalling the submission of the report (S/2014/928) of the International Commission of Inquiry established by resolution 2127 (2013), *noting with concern* its finding that the main parties to the conflict, including ex-Seleka, the anti-Balaka, and elements from the CAR Armed Forces (FACA) who collaborated with armed groups committed violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses since 1 January 2013, that may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, including ethnic cleansing by elements of the anti-Balaka militia,

Condemning in the strongest terms all attacks and provocations against the United Nations Integrated Multidimensional Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) contingents and other international forces by armed groups or other perpetrators, underlining that attacks targeting peacekeepers may constitute war crimes, reminding all parties of their obligations under international humanitarian law and urging the CAR Authorities to take all possible measures to ensure the arrest and prosecution of perpetrators,

Stressing the urgent and imperative need to end impunity in the CAR and to bring to justice perpetrators of violations of international humanitarian law and of abuses and violations of human rights, *underlining in this regard* the need to bolster national accountability mechanisms, including the Special Criminal Court (SCC) and underlining its support for the work of the Independent Expert on human rights in the CAR,

Reiterating the primary responsibility of the national authorities to ensure a conducive environment for the effective and independent investigation, prosecution and adjudication of all cases,

Welcoming the commitment of the Secretary-General to enforce strictly his zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse, expressing grave concern over numerous allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse reportedly committed by peacekeepers in the CAR, as well as by non-United Nations forces, stressing the urgent need for Troop- and Police-contributing countries and, as appropriate, MINUSCA, to promptly investigate those allegations in a credible and transparent manner and for those responsible for such criminal offences or misconduct to be held to account, and further stressing the need to prevent such exploitation and abuse and to improve how these allegations are addressed,

Emphasizing the fact that the current security situation in the CAR provides a conducive environment for transnational criminal activity, such as that involving arms trafficking and the use of mercenaries as well as a potential breeding ground for radical networks,

Expressing grave concern at the threat to peace and security in the CAR arising from the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons, and the use of such weapons against civilians,

Acknowledging in this respect the important contribution to the peace, stability or security of the CAR, of the Council-mandated sanctions regime renewed by resolution 2262 (2016), including its provisions related to the arms embargo, and its provisions related to individuals or entities designated by the Committee as engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR,

Reiterating that illicit trade, exploitation and smuggling of natural resources including gold, diamonds and wildlife poaching and trafficking continues to threaten the peace and stability of the CAR,

Expressing concern about reported travel by individuals designated pursuant to UNSC resolution 2127 (2013) and noting the critical importance of effective implementation of the sanctions regime, including the key role that neighbouring States, as well as regional and subregional organizations, can play in this regard and encouraging efforts to further enhance cooperation,

Reiterating its serious concern at the dire humanitarian situation in the CAR, and emphasizing in particular the humanitarian needs of the more than 418,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), of the approximately 36,000 civilians trapped in enclaves, and of the more than 480,000 refugees in neighbouring countries, a large number of whom are Muslim, and further expressing concern at the consequences of the flow of refugees on the situation in Chad, Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as other countries of the region,

Recalling the responsibility of the CAR Authorities to protect and promote the right to freedom of movement of all people in the CAR, including IDPs, without distinction, their freedom to choose where to reside, and to comply with their right to return to their own country or to leave in order to seek asylum in other States,

Reiterating also its appreciation for the efforts of the International Contact Group on the CAR, and encouraging all stakeholders to pursue their efforts,

Welcoming the holding of, and local participation in, grassroots consultations throughout the country between 21 January and 8 March 2015, which enabled thousands of people in the CAR to express their views on the future of their country, and the holding of the Bangui Forum in May 2015, during which the Republican Pact for Peace, National Reconciliation and Reconstruction as well as agreements on the principles for disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation (DDR/R), justice and reconciliation, and security sector reform (SSR), and on the commitment by armed groups to end the recruitment and use of children and to release all children from their ranks, were adopted,

Welcoming the peaceful organization of a constitutional referendum on 13 December 2015 and legislative and presidential elections in December 2015, February and March 2016, as well as the inauguration of the President Faustin-Archange Touadéra on 30 March 2016,

Recalling the need for an inclusive, gender-sensitive and effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process (DDR) as well as repatriation (DDRR) in the case of foreign fighters, including children formerly associated with armed forces and groups, while respecting the need to fight against impunity,

Welcoming the successful conduct of pre-DDR activities which have contributed to reduce the presence of members of armed groups,

Underlining the need to support national, and to coordinate international, efforts towards the transformation of the security sector in the CAR and stressing the important role of the internal security forces (police and gendarmerie) in the restoration of security in the CAR,

Welcoming in this regard the work done by the European Union military advice mission (EUMAM-RCA), which provided, at the request of the CAR Authorities, expert advice on reforming the FACA and welcoming also the launch of an EU training mission (EUTM) which will extend the support provided to reform the FACA into multi-ethnic, professional, and representative armed forces, as indicated in the letter of the High Representative of the EU for Foreign and Security policy dated 30 May 2016,

Recalling its resolutions on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including 2286 (2016) and 1894 (2009); its resolutions on Children and Armed Conflict including 2225 (2015) and its resolutions on Women, Peace and Security including 2106 (2013) and 2242 (2015), and *calling upon* all parties in the CAR to engage with the Special Representative on Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict,

Expressing its concern that children have continued to be victims of abuses committed by armed elements of the ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka as well as other armed groups including the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), and that women and girls continue to be violently targeted and victims of sexual and gender-based violence in the CAR,

Emphasizing that the continued role and contribution of the region, including the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) as well as the African Union (AU) remains critical for the promotion of lasting peace and stability in the CAR, *reiterating* its appreciation for their ongoing efforts in this regard, and welcoming the deployment of AU advisors to support the victims of sexual violence in the CAR,

Welcoming the strong engagement of the European Union (EU) and the positive engagement of other International Organizations such as the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for the CAR, and further welcoming the bilateral contributions of Member States to the stabilization of the CAR,

Calling on international partners to assist the CAR Authorities in building the institutional and operational capacities of national police, gendarmerie and customs authorities to effectively monitor the borders and points of entry, including to support the implementation of the measures renewed and modified by paragraph 1 of resolution 2262 (2016) and the disarmament and repatriation of foreign armed elements,

Calling on international partners to urgently provide financial contributions to support the reform and stabilization programmes, including the national dialogue and reconciliation, the extension of State authority, accountability, DDR/R and SSR processes, and the restoration of the judicial and penal chains in order to fight against impunity, in view of the international support conference to be held in Brussels in November 2016,

Stressing the need to implement MINUSCA's mandate, based on the prioritization of tasks, and, when relevant, in a phased manner,

Welcoming the Special Report of the Secretary-General of 22 June 2016 (S/2016/565) on the Strategic Review of MINUSCA,

Taking note of the letters sent by CAR President Faustin-Archange Touadéra to the Security Council dated 9 May 2016 and 17 May 2016 and by which the President called for the extension of the urgent temporary measures created by resolution 2149 (2014), and the support of the United Nations in supporting the sustainable reduction of the presence of armed groups through a comprehensive approach,

Determining that the situation in the CAR continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Political process

1. *Expresses* its support to President Faustin-Archange Touadéra as President of the Central African Republic and welcomes the formation of the CAR Government;

2. *Urges* the CAR authorities to urgently implement a genuine and inclusive reconciliation in the CAR, including by addressing marginalization and local grievances of all the components of society over the whole territory of the CAR, including through national policies on economic development and civil service recruitment, and to promote reconciliation initiatives at the regional, national, prefectural and local levels, including through local elections;

3. *Also calls upon* the CAR authorities to ensure that national policies and legislative frameworks adequately protect the human rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), including freedom of movement, and supports durable solutions for IDPs and refugee populations, including the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return to one's home or local integration or resettlement;

4. *Recalls* the crucial role of civil society in the peace and reconciliation process to ensure that the political solution addresses the root causes of the conflict;

5. *Underscores* the importance of respect for the Constitution to ensure the long-term stabilization and development of the CAR;

6. *Demands* that all militias and armed groups lay down their arms, cease all forms of violence and destabilizing activities, and release children from their ranks, immediately and unconditionally;

7. *Encourages* the submission by Member States of listing requests to the Committee established by paragraph 57 of resolution 2127 (2013), including detailed evidentiary support for each request, of individuals and entities engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR, including acts that threaten or impede the political process, or the stabilization and reconciliation process, or that fuel violence;

8. *Urges* the CAR authorities to address the presence and activity of armed groups in the CAR by implementing a comprehensive strategy that prioritizes dialogue and the urgent implementation of an inclusive DDR/R programme, to be

implemented in coherence with SSR which ensures civilian oversight of defence and national security forces, with the support of the international community;

9. *Urges* also the CAR authorities to adopt and implement a National Security Policy and a comprehensive strategy on SSR, including a strategy for a comprehensive reform of both the FACA, and the internal security forces (police and gendarmerie), in order to put in place professional, ethnically representative and regionally balanced national defence and internal security forces, including through the adoption and implementation of appropriate vetting procedures of all defence and security personnel, including human rights vetting, as well as measures to absorb elements of armed groups meeting rigorous eligibility and vetting criteria, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council on progress taken in this regard as part of his regular reporting cycle;

10. *Calls* on the CAR authorities to take concrete steps, without delay and as a matter of priority, to strengthen justice institutions and to fight impunity, in order to contribute to stabilization and reconciliation, including, inter alia, by restoring administration of the judiciary, criminal justice and penitentiary systems throughout the country, by demilitarizing the prisons and gradually replace the FACA by recruiting civilian prison personnel and by ensuring access to fair and equal justice for all, and to swiftly operationalize the Special Criminal Court (SCC);

11. *Also calls* on the CAR authorities to continue their efforts to restore the effective authority of the State over the whole territory of the CAR, including by redeploying State administration in the provinces, and ensuring the timely payment of salaries to civil servants and Security forces, with the objective of ensuring stable, accountable, inclusive and transparent governance;

12. *Encourages* the CAR Authorities, with the support of the international community, in particular with International Financial Institutions (IFI) leading international efforts, and based on critical peace and State building goals, to continue consolidating public financial management and accountability, including revenue collection, expenditure controls, public procurement and concession practices building on relevant international experiences and in a manner that allows it to meet the expenses related to the functioning of the State, implement early recovery plans, and revitalize the economy, and fosters national ownership and respects the sovereignty of the CAR;

13. *Further calls* on Member States, international and regional organizations to urgently provide support to the CAR Authorities for the reforms, for the restoration of the State authority over the whole territory, including contributions for the payment of salaries and other needs, in addition to support for the SSR and DDR/R programmes and for the restoration of the judiciary and the criminal justice system including the SCC, and notes that the pledging conference to be held in Brussels in November 2016 will provide an opportunity to do so;

14. *Welcomes* the continued engagement of the United Nations, including the Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA), the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), neighbouring States, the European Union, the International Contact Group (ICG), the Group of Eight (G8-RCA), the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and other international partners and donors in support of the stabilization of the CAR;

15. *Takes note* of the development of a framework of mutual accountability between the CAR authorities and international partners under the leadership of the CAR Government, with the aim of enhancing transparency and accountability as well as the coherence and sustained support of the CAR's international partners in support of agreed national priorities;

16. *Stresses* in this context the valuable role of the Peace-building Commission (PBC) in bringing strategic advice and fostering a more coherent, coordinated and integrated approach to international peace-building efforts, recognizes the active role of the Kingdom of Morocco, and encourages continued coordination with the PBC and other relevant international organizations and institutions in support of CAR's long term peace building needs;

Human rights, including child protection and sexual violence in conflict

17. *Reiterates* the urgent and imperative need to hold accountable all perpetrators of violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, irrespective of their status or political affiliation, and reiterates that some of those acts may amount to crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), to which the CAR is a State party;

18. *Notes* the decision made by the Prosecutor of the ICC on 24 September 2014 to open, following the request of the national authorities, an investigation into alleged crimes committed since 2012, and welcomes the ongoing cooperation of the CAR Authorities in this regard;

19. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict in the CAR, including ex-Seleka elements and anti-Balaka elements, to end all violations and abuses committed against children, in violation of applicable international law, including those involving their recruitment and use, rape and sexual violence, killing and maiming, abductions and attacks on schools and hospitals and further calls upon the CAR Authorities to investigate swiftly alleged violations and abuses in order to hold perpetrators accountable and to ensure that those responsible for such violations and abuses are excluded from the security sector;

20. *Reiterates* its demands that all parties protect and consider as victims those children who have been released or otherwise separated from armed forces and armed groups, and emphasizes the need to pay particular attention to the protection, release and reintegration of all children associated with armed forces and armed groups;

21. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict in the CAR, including ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka elements, to end sexual and gender-based violence, and further calls upon the CAR Authorities to investigate swiftly alleged abuses in order to hold perpetrators accountable, and to develop a structured and comprehensive framework to address sexual violence in conflict, in line with its resolutions 1960 (2010) and 2106 (2013), to ensure that those responsible for such crimes are excluded from the security sector and prosecuted, and to facilitate immediate access for victims of sexual violence to available services;

Peacekeeping Operation

22. *Commends* the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) Parfait Onanga-Anyanga and takes note of the increased

deployment of MINUSCA's military component, and encourages increased and flexible deployments of police and civilian components throughout the country;

23. *Decides* to extend the mandate of MINUSCA until 15 November 2017;

24. *Decides* that MINUSCA has an authorized troop ceiling of 10,750 military personnel, including 480 Military Observers and Military Staff Officers, 2,080 police personnel, including 400 Individual Police Officers, as well as 108 corrections officers, and recalls its intention to keep this number under continuous review in particular for the additional troops authorized by resolutions 2212 (2015) and 2264 (2016);

25. *Reiterates* the importance of current and future Troop- and Police-contributing countries (T/PCCs) providing troops and police with adequate capabilities and equipment in order to enhance the capacity of MINUSCA to operate effectively and requests the Secretary-General to accelerate the recruitment of qualified staff, who have the competencies, education, work experience and language skills to adequately and effectively implement the tasks enumerated in paragraphs 33 to 36 below;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all possible steps, including through the full use of existing authorities and at his discretion, to maximize MINUSCA's operational capacity and ability to discharge its mandate, with a specific focus on priority areas, over the entire territory of the CAR, including through enhancing MINUSCA's personnel, mobility assets and capabilities for gathering timely, reliable and actionable information on threats to civilians and the analytical tools to use it, while continuing to strengthen the performance of the Mission;

27. *Notes* the progress of all troop and police contributing countries to meet UN standards, in particular former International Support Mission to CAR (MISCA) TCCs/PCCS, and calls on them to immediately finalize the procurement and deployment of all required contingent-owned equipment, in order to comply with United Nations standards for troops and police;

28. *Further urges* the Secretariat to continue to explore, on the basis of need, the use of specialized police teams together with specialized required equipment, for police and gendarmerie capacity building and development and operational support;

29. *Requests* that the Secretary-General and his Special Representative take the necessary steps to reinforce the capacity of the police component of MINUSCA, within the authorized Force ceiling, and requests the enhanced deployment of the police component throughout the CAR and the recruitment and deployment of specialized personnel;

30. *Urges* MINUSCA and all relevant United Nations bodies, to ensure unhindered access for the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013), in particular to persons, documents and sites within their control in order for the Panel to execute its mandate;

31. *Decides* that MINUSCA's mandate should be implemented based on a prioritization of tasks established in paragraphs 33 to 36 of this resolution, and, when relevant, in a phased manner, and further requests the Secretary-General to

reflect this prioritization in the deployment and in the allocation of resources to the mission;

32. *Authorizes* MINUSCA to take all necessary means to carry out its mandate within its capabilities and areas of deployment;

33. *Decides* that the mandate of MINUSCA shall include the following immediate priority tasks:

(a) Protection of civilians

(i) To protect, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the CAR authorities and the basic principles of peacekeeping in line with S/PRST/2015/22, the civilian population from threat of physical violence, within its capabilities and areas of deployment, especially through maintaining a proactive deployment, a mobile and flexible posture, and active patrolling, including in areas of displacement and eventual return as well as at risk communities, while mitigating risks to civilians posed by its military and police operations;

(ii) To provide specific protection for women and children affected by armed conflict, including through the deployment of Child Protection Advisers, Women Protection Advisers and Gender Advisers;

(iii) To identify and report threats to and attacks against civilians and implement prevention and response plans and strengthen civil-military cooperation;

(iv) To fully implement and deliver, in close consultation with humanitarian and human rights organizations and other relevant partners, the mission-wide protection of civilians strategy;

(b) Promotion and protection of human rights

(i) To monitor, help investigate, and report publicly and to the Security Council on violations of international humanitarian law and on violations and abuses of human rights committed throughout the CAR, including undertaking a mapping of such violations and abuses since 2003 to inform efforts to fight impunity;

(ii) To monitor, help investigate and report on violations and abuses committed against children and women, including rape and other forms of sexual violence in armed conflict;

(iii) To assist the CAR authorities in their efforts to protect and promote human rights and prevent violations and abuses, including through the establishment of a national human rights commission and to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations;

(c) Facilitate the creation of a secure environment for the immediate, full, safe and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance

To improve coordination with humanitarian actors, in order to facilitate the creation of a secure environment for the immediate, full, safe and unhindered, civilian-led delivery of humanitarian assistance, in accordance with United Nations

guiding humanitarian principles and relevant provisions of international law, and for the voluntary safe, dignified and sustainable return or local integration or resettlement of internally displaced persons or refugees in close coordination with humanitarian actors;

(d) Protection of the United Nations

To protect the United Nations personnel, installations, equipment and goods and ensure the security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel;

34. Decides that MINUSCA's strategic objective is to support the creation of conditions conducive to the sustainable reduction of the presence of, and threat posed by, armed groups through a comprehensive approach and a proactive and robust posture without prejudice to the basic principles of peacekeeping, that combines and includes the following core priority tasks:

(a) Support for the reconciliation and stabilization political processes, the extension of State authority and the preservation of territorial integrity

(i) To provide good offices and technical expertise in support of efforts to address the root causes of conflict, in particular in mediation and reconciliation processes, inclusive national dialogue, transitional justice and conflict-resolution mechanisms, working with relevant regional and local bodies and religious leaders, while ensuring the full and effective participation of women in line with the CAR action plan on Women, Peace and Security;

(ii) To support efforts of the CAR authorities to address marginalization and local grievances, including through dialogue with the armed groups, civil society leaders including women and youth representatives, and by assisting national, prefectoral and local authorities to foster confidence among communities;

(iii) To support a gradual handover of security of key officials, and static guard duties of national institutions, to the CAR security forces, in coordination with the CAR Authorities, and based on the risks on the ground;

(iv) To advise the government in its engagement with neighbouring countries, the ECCAS, and the AU, in consultation with UNOCA;

(v) To promote and support the rapid extension of State authority over the entire territory of the CAR, including by supporting the immediate redeployment of police and gendarmerie in priority areas and main supply routes, which would contribute to the development of stable security institutions in more remote areas;

(vi) To reinforce co-location of MINUSCA with vetted and trained national police and gendarmerie in agreed priority areas, as part of the deployment of the territorial administration and other rule of law authorities, for increasing State presence in these priority areas outside of Bangui;

(vii) To help the CAR authorities in developing and implementing a nationally-owned strategy to address illegal taxation and illicit exploitation of natural resources related to the presence of armed groups;

(viii) To actively seize, confiscate and destroy, as appropriate, the weapons and ammunitions of armed elements, including all militias and other non-state armed groups, who refuse or fail to lay down their arms;

(b) Security Sector Reform (SSR)

(i) To provide strategic and technical advice to the CAR authorities to design and implement a strategy for the SSR, taking into account the work done by EUMAM-RCA and in close coordination with EUTM-RCA, and with the aim of ensuring coherence of the SSR process, including through a clear delineation of responsibilities of the FACA, the internal security forces, and other uniformed entities, as well as the democratic control of both defence and internal security forces;

(ii) To support the CAR authorities in developing an approach to the vetting of defence and security elements (FACA, police and gendarmerie) which includes human rights vetting, in particular to promote accountability of violations of international and domestic law amongst security forces and in the context of any integration of demobilized armed groups elements into security sector institutions;

(iii) To take a leading role in supporting the CAR authorities on the reform and development of the police and the gendarmerie, through the design and implementation of a capacity-building and development plan, undertaken pursuant to an overall security sector reform strategy, and by providing technical assistance, in close coordination with other technical assistance providers, to the CAR Government;

(iv) To support the CAR government in developing an incentive structure for police and gendarmerie and the selection, recruitment, vetting and training of police and gendarmerie to include at least 500 new police and gendarmerie elements, with the support of donors and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), taking into account the need to recruit women, and in full compliance with the UN Human rights due diligence policy (HRDDP);

(v) To coordinate the provision of technical assistance and training between the international partners in the CAR, in particular with EUTM-RCA, in order to ensure a clear distribution of tasks in the field of SSR, for the benefit of both the FACA and the CAR internal security forces (police and gendarmerie);

(vi) To coordinate with the CAR authorities in designing a plan for the progressive, and coordinated re-operationalization of FACA and other internal security forces within the framework of the SSR programme and in compliance with the HRDDP, in close coordination with EUTM-RCA;

(c) Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration (DDR) and Repatriation (DDRR)

(i) To support the CAR Authorities in developing and implementing an inclusive and progressive programme for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) and, in case of foreign elements, Repatriation (DDRR), of members of armed groups, based on the Principles of DDRR and Integration into the Uniformed Corps, signed at the Bangui Forum on 10 May 2015, while

paying specific attention to the needs of children associated with armed forces and groups;

(ii) To support the CAR authorities in undertaking an inclusive dialogue on community security and local development with members of armed groups and other national stakeholders, including representatives of local communities, with a view to addressing the root causes of conflict;

(iii) To support the CAR authorities and relevant civil society organizations in developing and implementing Community Violence Reduction programmes for members of armed groups non-eligible for participation in the national DDRR programme;

(iv) To provide technical assistance to the CAR authorities in developing and implementing a national plan for the integration of eligible demobilized members of armed groups into the security and defence forces, in line with the broader SSR agenda;

(v) To provide technical assistance to the CAR authorities in their development and operationalization of a national commission for Small Arms and Light Weapons to address civilian disarmament and the fight against the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons;

(vi) To destroy, as appropriate, the weapons and ammunitions of disarmed combatants in keeping with its effort to seize and collect arms and related materiel the supply, sale or transfer of which violate the measures imposed by paragraph 1 of resolution 2262 (2016);

(d) Assistance to advance the rule of law and combat impunity

Urgent temporary measures:

(i) To urgently and actively adopt, within the limits of its capacities and areas of deployment, at the formal request of the CAR Authorities and in areas where national security forces are not present or operational, urgent temporary measures on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent and without prejudice to the agreed principles of peacekeeping operations, which are limited in scope, time-bound and consistent with the objectives set out in paragraphs 33, 34 (a) and 35 (a), to arrest and detain in order to maintain basic law and order and fight impunity;

(ii) To pay particular attention, in implementing the urgent temporary measures in the conditions stated above, to those engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR, including acts that threaten or impede the political process, or the stabilization and reconciliation process, or that fuel violence;

(iii) Requests the Secretary-General to continue to report to the Security Council any measures that may be adopted on this basis;

Fight against impunity, including the Special Criminal Court (SCC):

(iv) To provide technical assistance to the CAR Authorities to identify, investigate and prosecute those responsible for crimes involving violations of international humanitarian law and of violations and abuses of human rights

committed throughout the CAR so that they can be brought to justice, and to help prevent such violations and abuses;

(v) To provide support and to coordinate international assistance to the justice and correctional institutions to reinstate the criminal justice system, within the framework of the United Nations global focal point on rule of law, in a manner that emphasizes civilian oversight, impartiality and the protection of human rights;

(vi) To provide technical assistance to the CAR Authorities in partnership with other international partners, to operationalize of the SCC consistent with CAR laws and jurisdiction and in line with the CAR's international humanitarian law and international human rights law obligations, with the aim of supporting the extension of State authority;

(vii) To provide technical assistance, in partnership with other international partners, and capacity building for the CAR authorities, in order to facilitate the functioning of the SCC, in particular in the areas of investigations, arrests, detention, criminal and forensic analysis, evidence collection and storage, recruitment and selection of personnel, court management, prosecution strategy and case development and the establishment of a legal aid system, as appropriate, as well as, to provide security for magistrates, including at the premises and proceedings of the SCC, and take measures for the protection of victims and witnesses, in line with the CAR's international human rights obligations, including with respect to fair trials, and due process;

(viii) To assist in the coordination and mobilization of bilateral and multilateral support to the operationalization and functioning of the SCC;

35. *Further authorises* MINUSCA to use its capacities to assist the CAR authorities for, and, where relevant, implement, the following essential tasks:

(a) Support for national and international justice and the rule of law

(i) To help reinforce the independence of the judiciary, build the capacities, and enhance the effectiveness and accountability of the national judicial and penitentiary system;

(ii) To help build the capacities of the national human rights institution coordinating with the Independent Expert on human rights as appropriate;

(iii) Without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the CAR authorities, to support the restoration and maintenance of public safety and the rule of law, including through apprehending and handing over to the CAR authorities, consistent with international law, those in the country responsible for crimes involving serious human rights violations and abuses and serious violations of international humanitarian law so that they can be brought to justice, and through cooperation with States of the region as well as the ICC in cases of crimes falling within its jurisdiction;

(iv) To provide strategic, policy and technical advice to the CAR authorities to design and implement a comprehensive strategy for transitional justice;

(b) Illicit exploitation and trafficking of natural resources

To support the CAR authorities to develop a nationally-owned strategy to tackle the illicit exploitation and trafficking networks of natural resources which continue to fund and supply armed groups in the CAR taking into account, where appropriate, the reports of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) and the decisions of the Kimberley Process (KP), with the aim of extending the State authority over the entire territory and its resources;

36. Further authorizes MINUSCA to carry out within its existing resources the following additional tasks:

(a) To coordinate international assistance as appropriate;

(b) To assist the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 57 of resolution 2127 (2013) and the Panel of Experts established by the same resolution, including by passing information relevant to the implementation of the mandate of the Committee and Panel of Experts;

(c) To monitor the implementation of the measures renewed and modified by paragraph 1 of resolution 2262 (2016), in cooperation with the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013), including by inspecting, as it deems necessary and when appropriate without notice, all arms and related materiel regardless of location, and advise the Authorities on efforts to keep armed groups from exploiting natural resources;

(d) To seize and collect arms and any related materiel the transfer of which to the CAR violates the measures imposed by paragraph 54 of resolution 2127 (2013) and to record and dispose of such arms and related materiel as appropriate;

(e) To provide transport for relevant State authorities in carrying out inspections and monitoring visits in key mining areas and sites as appropriate and on a case by case basis and when the situation allows, as a means to promote and support the rapid extension of the State authority over the entire territory;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to deploy and allocate personnel and expertise within MINUSCA to reflect the priorities identified by paragraph 33 to paragraph 36 of this resolution, and to continuously adjust this deployment according to the progresses made in the implementation of this mandate;

38. *Encourages* MINUSCA to develop measurable targets by which to assess progress against the core priority tasks set in pursuit of the strategic objective defined in paragraph 34 of this resolution;

39. *Requests* MINUSCA to continue using relevant and tailored communication tools, in particular radio, to help the local people better understand the mandate of the mission, its activities, and to build trust with the CAR citizens, parties to the conflict, regional and other international actors and partners on the ground as part of an effective political strategy;

40. *Requests* MINUSCA to enhance its operational coordination with the African Union Regional Task Force on the LRA (AU-RTF), as well as other entities involved in the implementation of the UN regional strategy to address the threat and impact of the activities of the LRA, and requests MINUSCA to share relevant information with the AU-RTF and with non-governmental organizations involved in tackling the threat of the LRA;

41. *Calls upon* the CAR Authorities and international partners and relevant United Nations entities, in coordination with MINUSCA and United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), to address the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation, and misuse of small arms and light weapons in the CAR, and to ensure the safe and effective management, storage and security of stockpiles of small arms and light weapons, and the collection and/or destruction of surplus, seized, unmarked, or illicitly held weapons and ammunition, and further stresses the importance of incorporating such elements into SSR and DDR/R programmes;

42. *Encourages* the CAR authorities to implement the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, their Ammunition, Parts and Components that can be used for their Manufacture, Repair or Assembly signed at Kinshasa on April, 30 2010;

43. *Urges* the CAR, its neighbouring States and other member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) to cooperate at the regional level to investigate and combat regional criminal networks and armed groups involved in the illegal exploitation and smuggling of natural resources including gold, diamonds and wildlife poaching and trafficking;

44. *Requests* MINUSCA to take fully into account child protection as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate and to assist the CAR authorities in ensuring that the protection of children's rights is taken into account, inter alia, in DDR and DDR/R processes and in SSR in order to end and prevent violations and abuses against children;

45. *Requests* MINUSCA to take fully into account gender mainstreaming as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate and to assist the Government of the CAR in ensuring the full and effective participation, involvement and representation of women in all spheres and at all levels, including in stabilization activities, SSR and DDR and DDR/R processes, as well as in the national political dialogue and electoral processes, through, inter alia, the provision of gender advisers, and further requests enhanced reporting by MINUSCA to the Council on this issue;

46. *Requests* MINUSCA, within its existing resources and mandate, to assist the political efforts of the AU, ECCAS, UNOCA and the Group of Eight (G8-RCA) to support the political process;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct an electoral needs assessment mission in relation to the conduct of the local elections further to the request of the CAR National Electoral Authority, and to report to the Security Council on the findings of the assessment as part of his regular reporting to the Council;

48. *Recalls* its Presidential Statement S/PRST/2015/22 and its resolution 2272 (2016) and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure full compliance of MINUSCA with the United Nations zero tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse and to keep the Council informed through his reports to the Council about the Mission's progress in this regard, and urges TCC/PCCs to take appropriate preventative action including predeployment awareness training, and to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

49. *Requests* MINUSCA to ensure that any support provided to non-United Nations security forces is provided in strict compliance with the HRDDP, and requests the Secretary-General to include information on any such support in his reports to the Council;

50. *Emphasizes* the need for MINUSCA, EUTM-RCA and the French forces operating in the CAR, while carrying out their mandate, to act in full respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of the CAR and in full compliance with applicable international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law and recalls the importance of training in this regard;

MINUSCA Freedom of movement

51. *Urges* all parties in the CAR to cooperate fully with the deployment and activities of MINUSCA, in particular by ensuring its safety, security and freedom of movement with unhindered and immediate access throughout the territory of the CAR to enable MINUSCA to carry out fully its mandate in a complex environment including by helping to ensure the full and effective implementation of, and compliance with, the host country agreement (SOFA) by the CAR authorities;

52. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those in the region, to ensure the free, unhindered and expeditious movement to and from the CAR of all personnel, as well as equipment, provisions, supplies and other goods, including vehicles and spare parts, which are for the exclusive and official use of MINUSCA;

Humanitarian access

53. *Demands* that all parties allow and facilitate the full, safe, immediate and unhindered access for the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance to populations in need, in particular to internally displaced persons, throughout the territory of the CAR, in accordance with the United Nations guiding principles of humanitarian assistance and relevant provisions of international law;

54. *Further demands* that all parties ensure respect and protection of all medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities;

Humanitarian appeal

55. *Welcomes* the humanitarian appeal, regrets its insufficient current funding, and calls on Member States and international and regional organizations to respond swiftly to this appeal through increased contributions and to ensure that all pledges are honoured in full and in a timely manner;

French Forces

56. *Authorizes* French forces, within the limits of their capacities and areas of deployment, from the commencement of the activities of MINUSCA until the end of MINUSCA's mandate as authorized in this resolution, to use all necessary means to provide operational support to elements of MINUSCA from the date of adoption of this resolution, at the request of the Secretary-General, and requests France to report to the Council on the implementation of this mandate and to coordinate its

reporting with that of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph 58 of this resolution;

Review and Reporting

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review on a regular basis the conditions required for the transition, drawdown and withdrawal of the United Nations operation, in a manner which does not prejudice overall efforts to support long term objectives for peace and stability, and looks forward to receiving this information as part of this regular reporting to the Security Council;

58. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council regularly informed of the situation in the CAR and the implementation of the mandate of MINUSCA, to report to the Council, on 1 October 2016, and then every four months from that date, and to include in his reports to the Council updates on and recommendations related to the dynamic implementation of MINUSCA's mandated tasks, including by providing appropriate financial information, information on the security situation, the priority political elements as defined above on political progress, progress on mechanisms and capacity to advance governance and fiscal management, relevant information on the progress, promotion and protection of human rights and international humanitarian law as well as a review of the troop and police levels, force and police generation and deployment of all MINUSCA's constituent elements;

59. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

United Nations S/2016/639

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 July 2016
English
Original: Russian

Letter dated 22 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The situation in south-eastern Ukraine is cause for growing concern. The Ukrainian armed forces and nationalist irregular formations have sharply stepped up their shelling of settlements under the control of the Donbas militia. The following are a just a few of the incidents that occurred last week.

According to information provided by the Special Monitoring Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), over the period from 12 to 20 July settlements under the control of the militia came under fire 15 times from positions where Ukrainian armed forces are deployed. In Donetsk on 13 July observers reported the injury of a woman, the destruction of two houses and industrial structures (report of 14 July 2016). On 15 July, a house in the Petrovsky neighbourhood of the city was blown up by a shell fired from a 122 mm mortar (report of 16 July). On 16 and 17 July, two women civilians were injured during the shelling of Donetsk and by the detonation of a landmine (report of 18 July).

In Hirlivka, school No. 84 and surrounding homes were hit by a high-calibre artillery shell (report of 15 July). On 12 July, a local resident was killed during shelling in Staromykhailivka (report of 16 July). On 15 July, a shell was fired at the checkpoint in the Stanytsia Luhanska district, while observers from the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission were present, injuring a local resident and a member of the militia (report of 16 July). In Kominternove a house and farm buildings were damaged (report of 19 July). In Sakhanka two houses and gas and power lines were struck by a mortar and destroyed (report of 13 July). In Zaichenko two houses were damaged by mortar shelling (report of 13 July). On 19 July, in Yasynuvata, shelling damaged the power lines, disrupting the operation of the water filtration plant and leaving 40,000 people without water.

In addition, observers have repeatedly logged cases of intense fire from the positions occupied by the Ukrainian armed forces. On 15 July, security forces fired at least 200 mortar and other artillery rounds from Avdiivka and, on 14 July, some 50 mortar rounds from Svitlodarsk.

An analysis of the reports of the Special Monitoring Mission shows that some 70 per cent of the total number of incidents of fire are artillery bombardments of human settlements in the Donbas area from positions where Ukrainian security forces are deployed.

Please recycle

Observers have recorded significant movements of Ukrainian weaponry in the so-called "security zone", in breach of the Minsk package of 12 February 2015. Over the period from 12 to 20 July, four multiple-launch rocket systems were discovered in Kalynove, four such systems and a howitzer in Makedonivka, two howitzers in Tarasivka, six anti-tank guns in Zhelanne, one howitzer in Khersones, a 152-mm cannon in Volnovakha, and a tank in Shchastia. Observers found ammunition stockpiles maintained by the Ukrainian armed forces for the multiple-launch rocket systems: 200 rockets in Ivanivka and 323 rockets in Kalynove. Over this period, the observers noted the disappearance from Ukrainian stockpiles of 219 pieces of military equipment (24 of them had still been in place last week).

Flights by Ukrainian military aircraft were recorded: an Mi-8 helicopter overflew Bylitske and an Mi-24 helicopter gunship overflew Krasnohorivka. The Ukrainian armed forces are carrying out artillery exercises in Karlovka. In addition, the Ukrainian military notified the observers of its intention to rotate its units. The Special Monitoring Mission stresses that such military movements are not provided for by the Minsk agreements.

The sequence of events is easy to follow. Since the end of 2015, Kyiv has been ratcheting up the tension, putting paid to the truce agreed on for the start of the school year. A process has begun of gradually occupying the no-man's land and seizing the settlements located in it, such as Shyrokyno, Pavlopil, Pyshchevyk and others. In the spring, in several places, the Ukrainians started to push forward their positions. This led to heightened tension in the Yasynuvata-Avdiivka district, near Olenivka, where the entry-and-exit point was shelled in April and a number of civilians killed.

During the briefing on 11 July in Vienna, Alexander Hug, the Deputy Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission, noted that tension in Donbas had been exacerbated by, among other factors, the movement of materiel by the Ukrainian military along the "front line" corridor in the area of Svitlodarsk and Hranitne, and also by assertions by Kyiv that it intended to move its checkpoints in Zaytseve and Berezove closer to the point of contact and to deploy the Azov and Donbass volunteer battalions to the conflict area. He also stressed that the situation along the entire contact line had sharply deteriorated in late June and early July 2016 as a consequence of intense and indiscriminate bombardment by 122-mm howitzers, 152-mm artillery shells and multiple-launch rocket systems from Ukrainian military positions in Svitlodarsk in the direction of Debaltseve.

This military activity by the Ukrainian armed forces is taking place against a backdrop of stubborn refusal by Kyiv to implement the political aspects of the Minsk agreements and to comply with the commitments that it has entered into. Instead, Ukraine's representatives in the negotiation process are merely trying to create the illusion that they are interested in a peaceful settlement to the crisis within Ukraine. While constantly highlighting the theme of sustainable security, Kyiv is actually fomenting the continued deterioration of the situation along the line of contact.

We stress once again that there is no military solution to the crisis within Ukraine. It can only be resolved by peaceful political and diplomatic means on the basis of strict and full implementation of the package of measures, through direct dialogue between Kyiv and Donbas. This is the guiding principle running through the Minsk agreements of 12 February 2015, which are reaffirmed by Security

Council resolution 2202 (2015). Attempts retroactively to distort those arrangements, by imposing a one-sided interpretation of the priority order of the steps and setting artificial preconditions, are holding up the peace process.

It is our firm conviction that efforts to stabilize the military situation should take place in step with implementation of the package of measures. Sustained and concerted efforts must be made to ensure the de-escalation of tension through, among other measures, the demilitarization of sites along the line of contact, and to seek solutions to political problems.

Recent events, however, show that Kyiv has no appetite for this. Scrupulous implementation of the package of measures manifestly does not feature among the Ukrainian leadership's priorities. At the same time, there are clear signs that the Ukrainian military is preparing a combat operation. The letter from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine of 19 July 2016 only serves to confirm this. We categorically reject the threatening insinuations in that letter. It was precisely such reckless behaviour that brought matters to their current state.

The Ukrainian military provocations in the south-east must not be allowed to evolve into full-scale combat operations along the entire front line. The resurgence of the war could extinguish any peace process. In this regard, we call upon all international partners to bring their influence to bear on Kyiv, with a view to preventing this disastrous course of events.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) V. **Churkin**

United Nations S/2016/640

Security Council

Distr.: General
20 July 2016

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the deputy representative of Egypt on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a letter dated 20 July 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations stating that Mr. Ihab Awad Moustafa has been appointed deputy representative of Egypt on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, this letter constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

16-12758 (E) 250716

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United Nations A/70/998–S/2016/641

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
26 July 2016

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventieth session
Items 37 and 38

Security Council
Seventy-first year

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Identical letters dated 21 July 2016 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from the Palestinian leadership, I am compelled to draw your attention to the brutal and atrocious crime committed against a 12-year-old Palestinian boy, Abdullah Issa, who was abducted, tortured and then beheaded by the Nour al-Din al-Zenki terrorist group in Handarat refugee camp near Aleppo city, Syria.

The Palestinian leadership condemns in the strongest terms this heinous crime and calls for a full investigation and for the perpetrators to be brought to justice. The Palestinian leadership also calls for immediate action to provide protection to Palestinian refugees living in Syria.

I would be grateful if the present letter could be distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 37 and 38, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer

16-12962 (E) 290716

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United Nations A/ES-10/726–S/2016/642

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
26 July 2016

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Seventieth-first year

Identical letters dated 22 July 2016 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

It has been one month since our previous letter regarding the situation in the occupied State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem. Regrettably, the situation continues to deteriorate further and the Palestinian people, particularly the children and youth, continue to suffer the gravest of consequences as a result of Israel's nearly 50-year illegal belligerent foreign military occupation. With each passing day, violation after violation is committed against the entire Palestinian population by Israel, the occupying Power, and the very party with the legal obligation to protect it. These ongoing violations are in stark breach of international law, humanitarian law and human rights law and contrary to international norms and morality. With every violation committed against the Palestinian people by Israeli occupying forces hope dwindles and a peaceful reality becomes more distant.

This could not be more obvious than in the Palestinian village of Duma, which has been consistently targeted by settler terrorists. Merely two days ago, this village was terrorized, yet again, when extremist Israeli settlers lit ablaze the family home of Mohammed Dawabshe. Mohammed and his family were sound asleep and awoke to noise outside and then an explosion. This is the third Dawabshe family home that has been a target of settler terrorism. Mohammed and his family are relatives of Sa'ad, Reham and 18-month-old baby Ali, who were killed in a similar arson attack last summer. Their first son, Ahmed, who is now 5, is now orphaned and continues to suffer from his wounds. Israel must ensure protection for the Palestinian civilian population, particularly those communities that are most vulnerable, in line with its legal obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention. The international community has a responsibility to ensure that Israel complies with this legal obligation and, in the absence of enforcement, has the responsibility to protect the Palestinian people from the illegal policies and practices implemented against them by Israel. Anything less will only further embolden the culture of impunity and

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lawlessness that Israel has grown accustomed to and relies on to carry out its illegal policies and practices and maintain its illegal occupation.

In addition to settler terrorism, Israeli occupying forces continue to commit crimes against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. A glaring example of the occupying Power's brutality took place on 19 July, when Muhye Al-Tabbakhi (age 12) was killed after being struck in the heart by a rubber-coated steel bullet fired by Israeli occupying forces in the East Jerusalem town of Al-Ram. Muhye is just the latest young boy to fall victim to the viciousness of the Israeli occupying forces. There are no words to express the immense grief and sorrow the Palestinian people must attempt to process once again at the pointless loss of life of yet another child. Here, we refer you to our previous letters in this regard, including the most recent one describing 15-year-old Mahmoud Badran's brutal murder by the occupying Power when he, along with his family and friends, were returning home from a visit to the only nearby swimming pool. Their vehicle came under heavy gunfire by nearby Israeli occupying forces killing Mahmoud and seriously injuring the other young boys in the car. This pattern of killing Palestinian children is abhorrent and must be condemned by the international community. Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators of these crimes must face justice.

On another front, Israel continues with its illegal settlement construction. We condemn the latest approval by the occupying Israeli authorities of 800 settlement units in illegal settlements in East Jerusalem. This recent announcement includes 560 settlement units in so-called "Ma'ale Adumim" settlement and 240 settlement units allocated to the so-called settlement neighbourhood of "Pisgat Ze'ev" and "Har Homa". Without a doubt, Israel's illegal settlement campaign is severely destroying the Palestinian Territory's contiguity and undermining the viability of the ever-diminishing two-State solution.

In this regard, we recall that 9 July marked the twelfth anniversary of the authoritative International Court of Justice advisory opinion on the wall, in which the Court called on Israel to cease construction of the wall "including in and around East Jerusalem; dismantle the sections already completed; and repeal or render ineffective forthwith all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto". Yet, Israel persists with its unlawful construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and continues to carry out and impose countless illegal measures comprising the wall's associated regime, in flagrant disrespect of the advisory opinion and grave breach of numerous provisions of international law.

While it is impossible to record each and every crime committed by Israeli occupying forces and terrorist settlers against the Palestinian people, the record below accounts for some of the many Israeli crimes in the recent period, all clearly intended to dehumanize the Palestinian civilian population, traumatizing generation after generation of an entire population at the hands of the Israeli occupation:

22 June 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained at least 33 Palestinians during overnight raids across the occupied West Bank.
- Extremist Israeli settlers resumed their provocative visits to Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in occupied East Jerusalem.

23 June 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained at least 10 Palestinians and summoned another, mostly during overnight raids across the occupied West Bank.

24 June 2016

- A Palestinian woman, Majd Al-Khadour (age 18) was shot and killed by Israeli occupying forces at the entrance of the illegal settlement of "Kiryat Arba" in Al-Khalil.

25 June 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained six Palestinian youths from Al-Khalil and Jenin, as well as summoned two others for interrogation.

26 June 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained 14 Palestinians from across the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

27 June 2016

- Israeli occupying naval forces attacked Palestinian farmers with gunfire to the east of Gaza City as well as fishermen sailing within six miles from the Gaza shore.
- Israeli occupying forces detained at least seven Palestinians during predawn raids in Al-Khalil, Bethlehem, Nablus, Tulkarm and East Jerusalem.
- Israeli occupying forces forced Palestinians in Khirbet Ras Al-Ahmar locality, south-east of Tubas, to halt the construction of several residential structures, citing the pretext of "unlicensed construction".

28 June 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained at least 18 Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

29 June 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained at least eight Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
- Israeli occupying forces killed Mohammed Mahmoud Tarayra (age 17) from Bani Naim, east of Al-Khalil.

30 June 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained 15 Palestinians, including a child, and summoned another Palestinian, mostly in predawn raids across the occupied West Bank.
- Israeli occupying forces detained 12 Palestinians from East Jerusalem, including two children and a media videographer.

1 July 2016

- Mohammad Mustafa Habash (age 63) died from excessive tear gas inhalation after Israeli occupying forces had heavily fired tear gas, earlier in the morning, at Palestinians crossing Israel's illegal Qalandiya checkpoint from Ramallah into East Jerusalem to attend prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

2 July 2016

- Israeli warplanes pounded several locations across the Gaza Strip.
- Israeli occupying forces detained three Palestinians from Al-Khalil and East Jerusalem.

3 July 2016

- At least 15 Palestinians were detained by Israeli occupying forces, mostly during predawn raids in East Jerusalem and Al-Khalil.

4 July 2016

- Israel, the occupying Power, approved the construction of 800 settlement units in various illegal Israeli settlements in occupied East Jerusalem.
- Israeli occupying forces demolished the homes of two Palestinians who had been fatally shot by occupying forces in December 2015.
- Israeli occupying forces detained at least 34 Palestinians, mostly during predawn raids across the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

5 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained at least 11 Palestinians during overnight detention raids across the occupied West Bank. In Beit Fajjar, south of Bethlehem, a 16-year-old youth was hit and injured in the leg with live ammunition and several others suffocated from tear gas canisters during the raids of the occupying forces.
- A Palestinian man, Walid Natour (age 48) experienced the symptoms of a heart attack as Israeli occupying forces stormed his brother's house in the town of Silwad, east of Ramallah.

7 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained eight Palestinians, including two minors, from Bethlehem and Al-Khalil.

- Nael Salah (age 18) succumbed to the wounds she sustained in May 2015 in the Gaza Strip.

8 July 2016

- Dozens of Palestinians suffocated from tear gas inhalation, and a foreign activist was shot and injured in Kafr Qaddum in Qalqiliya, as Israeli occupying forces violently suppressed a peaceful rally that is held on a weekly basis to condemn illegal Israeli settlements and to call for the reopening of a road that Israel has banned Palestinians from using for 13 years now.

9 July 2016

- A Palestinian was shot and injured and dozens of others suffocated from tear gas inhalation as Israeli occupying forces raided Dura town, south of Al-Khalil.
- Israeli occupying forces summoned six Palestinians during separate dawn raids into Ramallah and Al-Khalil.

10 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces arrested 14 Palestinians from across the occupied West Bank.

11 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained at least 10 Palestinians during predawn raids in Al-Khalil and Nablus.
- Extremist Israeli settlers prevented families of Palestinian detainees from the Gaza Strip from visiting their imprisoned sons in illegal Israeli prisons of "Nafha" and "Rimon".
- Israeli occupying forces razed Palestinian-owned land near the village of Ni'lin, west of Ramallah.

12 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained 23 Palestinians, including a woman, during raids across the occupied West Bank.
- Israeli occupying forces demolished several Palestinian structures during a raid into Anata town, north-east of East Jerusalem.
- Extremist Israeli settlers resumed their provocative visits to Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in occupied East Jerusalem.

13 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces shot dead Anwar Al-Salaymeh (age 24), and Fares Al-Rishq (age 20) sustained critical injuries to his head during a raid into Al-Ram town, north of East Jerusalem.
- Israeli bulldozers demolished three homes in Jabal Al-Mukaber in East Jerusalem, under the pretext of "building without a permit".

14 July 2016

- Israeli warplanes pounded farmlands east of Al-Bureij refugee camp in the central besieged Gaza Strip.
- Israeli occupying forces shot and injured three Palestinians during a raid in Deir Abu Mashal village, north-west of Ramallah.
- Israeli occupying forces detained six Palestinians during raids across the occupied West Bank and demolished property during a raid in Al-Khalil.
- Israeli occupying forces injured an unidentified Palestinian man near Shufat refugee camp's illegal Israeli checkpoint, north-east of East Jerusalem
- A number of Palestinian youths were injured during a military raid at Aida refugee camp, north of Bethlehem, which targeted youth centres; many suffocation cases were reported.

16 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained five Palestinians from Al-Khalil, as well as summoned four others for interrogation.

17 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained 12 Palestinians and summoned others from across the occupied West Bank for interrogation.
- Israeli occupying forces notified a Palestinian in Um Nir village, south of Al-Khalil, about their intention to demolish a water well in the area.

18 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained 16 Palestinians, including 3 children and a local Fatah leader, and shot and injured another Palestinian, mostly during military raids across East Jerusalem, Qalqiliya, Jenin and Al-Khalil.
- Israeli occupying forces punitively demolished a Palestinian house during a predawn raid in Qabatiya, south of Jenin.

19 July 2016

- Mustafa Baradiya (age 50) succumbed to the wounds he had sustained the day before, after having been shot and critically injured by Israeli occupying forces at the entrance of Al-Arroub refugee camp, north of Al-Khalil.
- Israeli occupying forces demolished a house under construction, four commercial structures and a wooden cottage in the East Jerusalem area under the pretext of "unlicensed building".
- Israeli occupying forces detained 18 Palestinians during predawn raids across the occupied West Bank.
- Israeli navy boats opened heavy machine gunfire at Palestinian fishermen, injuring at least one, and four occupying tanks, accompanied by bulldozers, infiltrated Gaza's border and went almost 150 metres into Palestinian agricultural land to the east of Al-Qarara area, in the southern part of the Gaza

Strip. The occupying forces razed the land and placed earth mounds in the area, while firing live fire and smoke bombs in all directions.

- Muhye Al-Tabbakhi (age 12) was killed after being struck in the heart by a rubber-coated steel bullet fired by Israeli occupying forces in the East Jerusalem town of Al-Ram.

20 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained 23 Palestinians, including children and 3 former detainees, and summoned two others during overnight raids across the occupied West Bank.
- A Palestinian farmer was shot and moderately injured, while four other fishermen were detained by Israeli occupying forces to the east of Deir Al-Balah, in central Gaza Strip.
- Israeli occupying forces stole a large amount of cash from inside a Palestinian home in Beit Awwa town to the south-west of Al-Khalil.
- Extremist Israeli settlers set fire to the family house of Mohammed Dawabshe in the village of Duma, south of Nablus.
- Israeli occupying forces uprooted olive trees in the village of Deir Istiya, in Salfit, in order to open up a road designated for the sole use of Israeli settlers illegally residing in the occupied West Bank.

21 July 2016

- Israeli occupying forces detained 20 Palestinians during predawn raids across the occupied West Bank.

The above list of violations constitute grave breaches of international humanitarian law, as well as international criminal law as articulated in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. As the international community commemorated International Criminal Justice day on 17 July, marking the eighteenth anniversary of the Rome Statute, we must reiterate our call to the international community, particularly the Security Council, to act now. Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, are clear threats to international peace and security and clear violations of international law. As you stated on International Criminal Justice Day, "To realize our shared vision of a more peaceful, just and sustainable future, we must hold perpetrators of the most serious crimes of international concern to account." For these war crimes, we will continue to seek accountability and justice through all legal and peaceful means. The time is now for the international community to finally bring an end to Israel's impunity and to bring an end to Israel's 50-year occupation in order to bring overdue justice to the Palestinian people.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 589 previous letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 22 June 2016 (A/ES-10/725-S/2016/567) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations

being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine
to the United Nations